

Cameron Buckner

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EDUCATION

2011 Ph.D. in Philosophy, Indiana University, Bloomington
2004 B.S. in Computer Science and B.A. in Philosophy, Texas Tech University

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

2014- Assistant Professor, Philosophy Department, University of Houston
2013-2014 CLASS Postdoctoral Fellow and Director, University of Houston
2011-2013 Visiting Assistant Professor, Philosophy Department, University of Houston
2011-2013 Humboldt Postdoctoral Fellow, Philosophy II, Ruhr-University Bochum

RESEARCH INTERESTS

AOS: Philosophy of psychology and cognitive science, philosophy of mind
AOC: Philosophy of science, philosophy of language, logic, artificial intelligence

GRANTS

2015 German Research Foundation (DFG) grant for conference “The Nature and Origins of Human Cognition” with Richard Moore (co-PI), Albert Newen, and Michael Pauen, €11,995 (Role: Co-PI)
2015 University of Houston New Faculty Fund, \$6,000 (to perform research at University of Vienna Department for Cognitive Biology, Summer 2015) (Role: PI)
2013 DFG grant for conference “What Is Cognition” with Ellen Fridland (co-PI), Albert Newen, and Michael Pauen, €11,995 (Role: Co-PI)
2011-2014 Joint NEH-DFG Bi-lateral Digital Humanities Grant with Colin Allen (co-PI) and Mathias Niepert (co-PI), \$172,215 for Indiana University and €126,400 from DFG for the University of Mannheim (Role: Proposal Co-Author and Graduate Researcher)
2009-2011 NEH Digital Humanities Grant for with Colin Allen (PI) and Mathias Niepert, \$400,000 (Role: Proposal Co-Author and Graduate Researcher)
2007-2008 NEH Digital Humanities Initiative Startup with Colin Allen (PI) and Mathias Niepert, \$29,800 (Role: Proposal Co-Author and Graduate Researcher)
2006-2007 IUB New Horizons Grant for 2006-2007 with Colin Allen (PI) and Mathias Niepert, \$43,000 (Role: Proposal Co-Author and Graduate Researcher)

PUBLICATIONS

Journal Articles and Book Chapters

- Forthcoming. Rational Inference: The Lowest Bounds. *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*. (14,000 words).
- Forthcoming. Scaffolding Intuitive Cognition. *Oxford Handbook of 4E Cognition*, Albert Newen, Leon de Bruin, & Shaun Gallagher, eds. Oxford University Press. (8,000 words)
- Forthcoming. Understanding Cognitive and Associative Explanations in Comparative Psychology. In *The Routledge Handbook of Philosophy of Animal Minds*, eds. Kristin Andrews & Jacob Beck. (5,000 words)
- Forthcoming. Connectionism: Roots, Revolution, and Radiation (with Jim Garson—equal author contributions). *Routledge Handbook of the Computational Mind*, Mark Sprevak & Matteo Colombo, eds. (6000 words)
- 2016 Ravens Attribute Visual Access to Unseen Competitors (with Thomas Bugnyar and Stephan Reber). *Nature Communications* 7. doi:10.1038/ncomms10506 (6,000 words)
- 2016 Transitional Gradation in the Mind: Rethinking Psychological Kindhood. *The British Journal for the Philosophy of Science*. 67(4), 1091-1115 (10,300 words)
- 2015 A Property-Cluster Theory of Cognition. *Philosophical Psychology*, 28(3), 307-336. (13,000 words)
- 2015 Functional Kinds: A Skeptical Look. *Synthese*, 192(12), 3915-3942. (13,600 words)
- 2014 The Semantic Problem(s) with Research on Animal Mindreading. *Mind & Language*, 29(5), 566-589. (10,000 words)
- 2014 A Portrait of the Artist as an Aesthetic Expert (with Christy Mag Uidhir). In *Aesthetics and the Sciences*, ed. G. Currie, M. Kieran, & A. Meskin. Oxford University Press. (9,000 words)
- 2013 Evaluating Dynamic Ontologies (with J. Murdock and C. Allen). *Communications in Computer and Information Science*, 272, 258-275. Springer Berlin-Heidelberg. (9,000 words)
- 2013 Morgan's Canon, Meet Hume's Dictum: Avoiding Semantic Bias in Cross-Species Comparisons. *Biology & Philosophy*, 28(5), 853-871. (10,000 words)
- 2013 In Search of Balance: Essay Review of Povinelli's *World without Weight*. *Biology & Philosophy*, 28(1), 145-152. (4000 words)
- 2011 Two Approaches to the Distinction between Cognition and Mere Association. *International Journal for Comparative Psychology*, 24(1), 1-35. (11,000 words)
- 2010 Are Philosophers Expert Intuiters? (with Joshua Alexander, Chad Gonnerman, and Jonathan Weinberg). *Philosophical Psychology*, 23(3), 331-355.
-[Reprinted in Horvath, J. and Grundmann, T., 2012, *Experimental Philosophy and Its Critics*, Routledge Press.] (11,000 words)
- 2010 From Encyclopedia to Ontology: Toward Dynamic Representation of the Discipline of Philosophy (with Colin Allen and Mathias Niepert). *Synthese* 182(2), 205-233. (11,000 words)

Edited Volumes

- Forthcoming Special issue of *Synthese* on cognition (with Ellen Fridland). Contributors include Ken Aizawa, Colin Allen, Carrie Figdor, Ellen Fridland, Hajo Greif, John Michael, Albert Newen, Bill Ramsey, and Mark Rowlands.

Refereed Conference Proceedings

- (Note: conference proceedings are a primary form of scholarly publication in computer science.)

- 2014 Containing the Semantic Explosion (with J. Murdock and C. Allen). Proceedings of Philoweb 2012 Workshop, WWW 2012 in Lyon, France. (5,000 words)
- 2011 Two Methods for Evaluating Dynamic Ontologies (with J. Murdock and C. Allen). *Proceedings of the 2010 International Conference on Knowledge Engineering and Ontology Development*. AAAI Press. (10% acceptance rate) (7,000 words)
- 2010 Crowdsourcing the Assembly of Concept Hierarchies (with K. Eckart, M. Niepert, C. Niemann, C. Allen, and H. Stuckenschmidt). *Proceedings of the 10th ACM/IEEE Joint Conference on Digital Libraries JCDL*, Brisbane, Australia, ACM Press. (29% acceptance rate) (9,000 words)
- 2009 Working the Crowd: Design Principles and Early Lessons from the Social-Semantic Web (with M. Niepert and C. Allen). In *Proceedings of the Workshop on Web 3.0: Merging Semantic Web and Social Web at ACM Hypertext*, Turin, Italy. (3,500 words)
- 2008 InPhO: A System for Collaboratively Populating and Extending a Dynamic Ontology (with J. Murdock, M. Niepert, and C. Allen). In *Proceedings of the 8th ACM/IEEE Joint Conference on Digital Libraries JCDL*, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, page 429, ACM Press. (28% acceptance rate) (1,000 words)
- 2008 Answer set programming on expert feedback to populate and extend dynamic ontologies (with M. Niepert and C. Allen). In *Proceedings of 21st Meeting of the Florida Artificial Intelligence Research Society FLAIRS*. AAAI Press; 500-505. (5,300 words)
- 2007 A dynamic ontology for a dynamic reference work (with M. Niepert and C. Allen). In Rasmussen, E.M., Larson, R.R., Toms, E., and Sugimoto, S. *Proceedings of the 7th ACM/IEEECS Joint Conference on Digital Libraries*, Vancouver, BC, Canada, pp. 288-297. (26% acceptance rate) (9,000 words)

Commentaries, Responses, Reviews

- 2014 Colin Allen 2050: A Guide for the Undecided. *APA Newsletter on Computing and Philosophy*. 13(2), 8-11. (3,000 words)
- 2013 Povinelli Weighs in on Human Uniqueness: Review of *World without Weight* by Daniel Povinelli. *Evolution* 67(3), 918-919. (1,000 words)
- 2013 Computational Philosophy and the Examined Text: A Tale of Two Encyclopedias (with C. Allen, J. Murdock, and R. Rose). *APA Newsletter on Computing and Philosophy*, 12(2), 28-30. (3,000 words)
- 2012 Ordering Our Attributions of Order. Commentary on Jennifer McMahon's "The aesthetics of perception". *Essays in Philosophy*, 13(2). (4000 words)
- 2012 Review of *The Ego Tunnel* by Thomas Metzinger. *Philosophical Psychology*, 25(3), 457-461. (2,000 words)
- 2009 How 'Weak' Mindreaders Inherited the Earth. Commentary on Peter Carruthers article, How we know our own minds: The relationship between mindreading and metacognition (with Colin Allen, Stephen Crowley, and Adam Shriver) *Behavioral and Brain Sciences* 32(2):140-141. (1,000 words)
- 2008 The World is Not Flat: Expertise and InPhO (with M. Niepert and C. Allen). *First Monday* [Online], 13(8). (4,200 words)
- 2007 InPhO: The Indiana Philosophy Ontology (with M. Niepert and C. Allen). In the *APA Newsletter on Philosophy and Computers*, 6(2). (1,400 words)†

2005 The Guessing Game: Teaching Computer Studies in Savusavu, Fiji. *The Successful Professor*, Volume 4, Issue 2, April 2005. (1,600 words)

In Progress

A Forward-Looking Theory of Content (under review, *Mind & Language* – 10,000 words)

Dretske's Theories of Content (in prep, 15,000 words)

From Association to Reason: Abstraction in Deep-Learning Neural Networks (in prep)

Recursion and Mating Dances in Manakins: The Next Step? (in prep)

PRESS

2016 -Interview with *The Christian Science Monitor* regarding a paper from Krupinye et. al that apes can understand false beliefs: <http://www.csmonitor.com/Science/2016/1006/Reading-minds-All-great-apes-might-be-able-to-see-others-points-of-view>

-The raven experiment with Bugnyar & Reber in *Nature Communications* was covered by over 100 press outlets worldwide. It was [ranked by Altametric as the 5th most highly covered article](#) out of 701 articles in *Nature Communications* of a similar age. Highlights of coverage include:

- *New Scientist* – [Ravens fear of unseen snoopers hints they have a theory of mind](#)
- *The Guardian* - [Ravens can imagine being spied on](#)
- *Washington Post* - [Ravens know when they're being watched](#)
- *The Christian Science Monitor* – [Ravens might possess a theory of mind](#)
- *Cnet* – [Ravens are smart enough to feel paranoid](#)
- *LiveScience* - [Ravens Know When Food-Thieving Rivals Are Watching](#)
- *Vice* - [Ravens Can Imagine They're Being Spied On, Study Finds](#)

2012 Was denkt sich der Affe bloss dabei? Von der Kognition der Tiere wissen wir immer noch sehr wenig. *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, Wednesday July 4, 2012, NR 153.

2009 Petition seeks apology for Enigma code-breaker Turing. CNN.com, <http://www.cnn.com/2009/WORLD/europe/09/01/alan.turing.petition/index.html>.

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

2016 Griffiths Memorial Award, Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology (for paper/presentation “A forward-looking theory of content”—best paper award, one per year for best paper/presentation from a scholar within 5 years of PhD)

2013 CLASS Postdoctoral Fellowship, University of Houston

2012 Alexander von Humboldt Postdoctoral Fellowship (24 months awarded, 12 months used), hosted at Ruhr University Bochum, Germany

2011 Brian Michael Goldberg Memorial Award for Outstanding Graduate Work in Computing and Philosophy, from the International Association for Computing and Philosophy—\$1000 honorarium, travel support, and plenary session the 25th anniversary meeting of IACAP 2011 at Aarhus University, Denmark July 2-4 2011.

2010 Travel Stipend to attend Success Strategies for Emerging Faculty, University of Delaware.

2010 Grant from Max Planck Institute for Human Development in Berlin to attend the Summer Institute on Bounded Rationality

2009 IUB College of Arts and Sciences Dissertation Year Fellowship

- 2008 Nelson Dissertation Fellowship, IUB Department of Philosophy
- 2008 Travel grant from DAAD German Academic Exchange Service. to attend International Center for Computational Logic Summer School on Computational Logic and Cognitive Science, Dresden, Germany
- 2005 IUB Philosophy Department Oscar R. Ewing Memorial Essay Award
- 2005 IUB Philosophy Department Award for Graduate Academic Excellence

SCHOLARLY PRESENTATIONS

Invited

(No job talks)

- 2017 **Keynote** – Interdisciplinary Neuroscience Showcase, University of Mississippi, March 30-31.
- 2017 Invited Speaker, Humboldt Colloquium: Global Research in the 21st Century, Washington DC, March 2-4.
- 2016 Colloquium Lecture at Rational Animals conference, Ruhr-University Bochum, Germany, October 4-6.
- 2016 **Keynote** – York Graduate Conference, Toronto, Canada, April 8.
- 2015 Philosophy Colloquium Lecture at University of Nevada Las Vegas, December 4.
- 2015 Invited lecture – “The Rewards of Associative Modeling—at the 2015 Congress on Logic, Methodology, and Philosophy of Science, Helsinki, August 3-8.
- 2015 **Keynote** – “Semantic and Episodic memory—What’s the difference again? -- "The Self in Time. Prospective Cognition in Animals and Humans" LMU Munich, Munich, Germany, July 30-August 1st, also delivered to Rice University CogTea, September 30.
- 2015 **Keynote** – “Minding our Models” –at Nature and Origins of Human Cognition Conference, Berlin, June 18-20.
- 2015 “Philosophy of Comparative Cognition” – Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology, New Orleans, LA, April 2-4.
- 2015 “Ravens attribute their own prior visual access to unseen competitors” – SSPP Pre-Workshop at Loyola University New Orleans, April 1.
- 2013 “The Debate over Animal Theory of Mind: Moving Forward” – University of Vienna, CogBio Lecture Series, July 22.
- 2013 “The Problem of Cognition: Definition or Explication?” – What Is Cognition? Workshop, Ruhr University, Bochum, June 29.
- 2013 “Philosophy and the Digital Humanities,” Central APA, New Orleans.
- 2012 “A Property Cluster Theory of Cognition” – Colloquium lecture at Berlin School of Mind and Brain, May 15.
- 2012 “Functional Kinds” – Invited Lecture at Workshop on Explanatory Power, Ruhr-University Bochum, May 4-5.
- 2012 “Dynamic Ontology” – Invited talk in main colloquium series at Munich Center for Mathematical Philosophy, April 25-28. (Lecture published on iTunes: <https://cast.itunes.unimuenchen.de/vod/clips/pmY60Fb5dq/quicktime.mp4>)
- 2012 “Mindreading and Metarepresentation: Where to Draw the Line” – Presented at Winter Conference on Animal Learning and Behavior, Winter park, CO, January 28-Feb 1.
- 2011 “Mentality Is about Flexibility: What Comparative Neuropsychology Can Teach Us about Rational Intentionality”. Mind and Perception Workshop, Rice University, September 9.

- 2011 **Keynote** – “Computational Methods for the 21st Century Philosopher: Recent Advances and Challenges in Cognitive Science and Metaphilosophy”. Keynote address at the International Association for Computing and Philosophy 25th Anniversary meeting, University of Aarhus, Denmark, July 6.
- 2010 “The Myth of Semantic Expertise in Philosophy, Psychology, and Computer Science” – presented at Success Strategies for Emerging Faculty in STEM fields, Newark, University of Delaware, September 12.
- 2010 “In Search of a Viable Distinction between Cognition and Mere Association” – Presented at the Tri-State (Plus) Conference on Animal Learning and Behavior, Bloomington, Indiana, April 9.
- 2009 “Learning from Mistakes: A Neo-Dretskean Theory of Content” – Annual Nelson Lecture, presentation delivered to the IUB Department of Philosophy, Bloomington, IN, April 24.
- 2008 Comment on Marcello Guarini’s presentation “Fodor’s Analysis of Neural Network Behavior” at the 2008 meeting of North American Conference on Computers and Philosophy, Bloomington, IN, June.
- 2007 “An Introduction to the Indiana Philosophy Ontology Project” – Presented at the 2007 Meeting of the North American Association for Computers and Philosophy, Chicago, July 28.
- 2005 “Inferential Heuristics: Modeling the Mind’s Good, Bad, and Ugly” – Philosophy Department Colloquium at the University of Cincinnati, February.

Refereed

- 2018 “From Association to Reason: The Power of Transformational Abstraction” – Eastern American Philosophical Association, Savannah, GA, January 3-6.
- 2017 “From Association to Reason: Transformational Abstraction in Deep Learning Neural Networks” – Society for Philosophy and Psychology, June 29-July 1 (20% acceptance rate).
- 2017 “From Association to Cognition: Bootstrapping Hierarchical Abstraction” – 24th International Conference on Comparative Cognition – April 22nd.
- 2017 “From Association to Reason: The Power of Transformational Abstraction” – Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology, March 22.
- 2016 “A Forward-Looking Theory of Content” – Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology March 12,
 2016 ****Winner of the Griffiths Memorial Award****
 -Also presented at Society for Philosophy and Psychology, June 2-4, 2016 (15% acceptance rate)
- 2015 “The Rationality of Intuitive Judgment” – Eastern Philosophical Association, January 6-9 2016, Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology, New Orleans, April 2-4.
- 2014 “Functional Kinds: A Skeptical Look” – Boulder Conference on the History and Philosophy of Science, Oct 10-12.
- 2014 “Concepts, Kinds, and Transitional Gradation”. Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology, February 8th.
- 2013 “The Semantic Problem(s) with Research on Animal Mindreading”. Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology, February 28th.
- 2012 “Heuristics and Intelligence.” Computability in Europe 2012 Turing Centenary Conference, Cambridge, England June 18-23.

- 2012 “Containing the Semantic Explosion” with Jamie Murdock – WWW 2012 Philoweb Workshop with Tim Berners-Lee and Stevan Harnad. Lyon, France, April 16-20.
- 2011 “In Defense of the Distinction between Cognition and Mere Association.” – Symposium paper 2 hour session with two commentators. at the 2010 Meeting of the Pacific Division of the American Philosophical Association, in San Diego, CA, April 20-23.
- 2010 “X-Phi Beyond the Survey: Heuristics and Reflection.” – Poster presentation at the 2010 meeting of the Society for Philosophy and Psychology, Portland, OR.
- 2010 “In Search of a Viable Distinction between Cognition and ‘Mere Association’” – Presented at the Workshop on Novel Approaches to Animal Cognition, CISAB 2010, Saturday, March 27, Bloomington, IN.
- 2010 “In Search of a Viable Distinction between Cognition and ‘Mere Association’” – Presented at the 17th Annual Animal Behavior Conference, Friday, March 26, Bloomington, IN.
- 2010 “Forward- and Backward-looking Theories of Misrepresentation” – Presented at the Midsouth Philosophy Conference, March 6, Memphis, TN.
- 2009 “In Search of a Viable Distinction between Cognition and ‘Mere Association’” – Presented at the Winter Conference on Animal Learning and Behavior, February 2, Winter Park, CO.
- 2009 “How I Learned to Stop Worrying about Mental Causation and Love the Hippocampus” – Presented at the 2009 meeting of the North American Association for Computing and Philosophy, June 16, Bloomington, IN.
- 2009 “Heuristics Are a Natural Kind” – Presented at the 2009 meeting of the Society for Philosophy and Psychology, delivered on June 13, Bloomington, IN.
- 2009 “Identifying Psychology’s Kinds: A Case Study in Why Neural Mechanisms Matter” – Presented to the Midsouth Philosophy Conference, Memphis, TN, April 17.
- 2008 “Intentional Explanation and the Sciences of Animal Behavior” – Presented at the 2008 meeting of the IUB Center for the Integrative Study of Animal Behavior CISAB., Bloomington, IN, April.
- 2007 “A Dynamic Ontology for a Dynamic Reference Work” – With Mathias Niepert, presentation at Joint Conference on Digital Libraries 2007 in Vancouver, June 20, 2007.
- 2007 “The Role of Rationality in Cognitive Science” – Poster at the 2007 meeting of the IUB Center for the Integrative Study of Animal Behavior CISAB. April.

TEACHING

University of Houston

New Approaches to Representation (graduate) – Fall 2015

Logic & Philosophy (graduate) – Fall 2014

Animal Cognition (graduate) – Spring 2014, Spring 2017

Philosophy of Language (grad/undergrad) – Fall 2013, Spring 2015, Fall 2016

Philosophy of the Special Sciences (graduate) – Fall 2012, Summer 2013 (Bochum)

Logic II – Fall 2012

Philosophy of Mind (grad/undergrad) – Fall 2011

Logic I – Every semester

Indiana University

Thinking and Reasoning: critical thinking, informal logic, scientific reasoning, and heuristics – Fall 2010.

Introduction to Symbolic Logic propositional and predicate – Summer 2010.
Introduction to Philosophy: Appearance and Reality – Spring 2008.
Introduction to Ethics – Fall 2007.

Volunteer Teaching

(Through Rotary International)

Summer 2005 – Savusavu, Fiji

Advanced computer studies, Savusavu Secondary School

Advanced computer studies, St. Bede's College

Summer 2004 - Savusavu, Fiji

Advanced computer studies, Savusavu Secondary School

SERVICE

Conferences:

Co-Organizer: Minds Online Conference at Brains Blog, 2015-

Program Chair: 1st Annual Texas Digital Humanities Conference 2014, April 10-12 2014

Board Member: International Association for Computing and Philosophy, 2011-2013.

Track Organizer: IACAP 2013 (University of Maryland), Computers and Philosophy

Program Committee: Computability in Europe (CiE) Conference Series, CiE 2013

Milan.

Two-workshop series entitled "What Is Cognition?" (with Ellen Fridland, Richard Moore, and Anna Strasser) 2013 at Ruhr-University Bochum and 2015 at the Berlin School for Mind and Brain.

Special Session on Digital Philosophy, Central APA 2013.

Research Workshop on Digital Humanities January 27, 2012, University of Houston, 8 speakers.

Workshop on Animal Cognition June 28-30, 2012, Ruhr-University Bochum, 12 invited speakers.

Co-Founder: Texas Digital Humanities Consortium, University of Houston Digital Humanities Initiative

Contributing Editor: Brains Blog (<http://philosophyofbrains.com>)

Reviewer: *Analysis, Philosophy and Phenomenological Research, Philosophy of Science, Synthese, Biology & Philosophy, Journal of the American Philosophical Association, Ethology, The Monist, Philosophical Psychology, Psychonomic Bulletin & Review, Evolution, Journal of Consciousness Studies, Cognitive Science Society, the Society for Philosophy and Psychology, the Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology, the International Association for Computers and Philosophy, Polish Academy of Sciences.*

Judge: 2015 Graduate Research and Scholarship Projects best student publication prize, University of Houston.

Associate: *Behavior & Brain Sciences*

Member: Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology, Society for Philosophy and Psychology, American Philosophical Association, International Association for Computing and Philosophy, Texas Action Group, Center for the Integrative Study of Animal Behavior, the Experimental Epistemology Laboratory

Philpapers Area Editor: Psychological Explanation, Philosophy of Animal Minds

Committee work: UH Digital Research Commons Director Hiring Committee 2016-2017, UH
Philosophy Department Hiring Committee 2016-2017, UH Digital Humanities Planning
Committee, 2011-2013, UH Philosophy Institutional Effectiveness Committee 2015, 2016
Webmaster: IUB Philosophy Department 2006-2011, UH Philosophy Department 2011-

NATURAL LANGUAGES

English (native)

Spanish (Spoken: Intermediate, Written: advanced)

German (Spoken: Beginner, Written: Beginner)

Albanian (Spoken: Intermediate, Written: Intermediate)

PROGRAMMING LANGUAGES

C, C++, Perl, PHP, Python/Pylons, UNIX, HTML, CSS, LaTeX, shell scripting,
SQL/mysql/SQLAlchemy, Mako, Prolog, DLV, Smodels