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THEODORE SIDER

June 12, 2017

Education

Ph.D., Philosophy, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, 1993
B.S., Mathematics, Philosophy, Physics, Gordon College, 1988

Appointments

University of Rochester, Assistant Professor, 1992–97; Associate Professor, 1997–98
Syracuse University, Associate Professor, 1998–2002
Rutgers University, Associate Professor, 2002–04; Professor, 2004–07
University of Leeds, Visiting Research Professor, Fall 2003
Australian National University, Visiting Fellow, Summer 2005
New York University, Professor, 2007–11
Cornell University, Frederick J. Whiton Professor, 2011–15
Rutgers University, Andrew W. Mellon Chair, 2015–
All Souls College, Oxford University, Visiting Fellow, Trinity Term 2016

Interests

Research: Metaphysics, Philosophy of Language
Teaching: Logic

Awards and Honors

1998 University of Rochester Professor of the Year (awarded by the Student Association)
2000 Ruth Evelyn Parcells Memorial Lecturer, University of Connecticut

2003 APA Book Prize for *Four-Dimensionalism*

2010 Dewey Lecturer, University of Vermont

2016 John Locke Lecturer, Oxford University

Books

Four-Dimensionalism: An Ontology of Persistence and Time (Oxford, 2001; Japanese: Shunjusha, 2007). Section on argument from vagueness reprinted in Jaegwon Kim, Daniel Z. Korman, and Ernest Sosa, eds., *Metaphysics: An Anthology*, 2nd edition (Wiley, Blackwell, 2011)

Riddles of Existence: A Guided Tour of Metaphysics, with Earl Conee (Oxford, 2005; 2nd edition 2014; Japanese: Shunjusha, 2009; Portuguese: Bizâncio, 2010; Spanish: Alianza, 2013). Chapter on “Time” reprinted in Tamar Szabó Gendler, Susanna Siegel, and Steven M. Cahn, eds., *The Elements of Philosophy* (Oxford, 2007), and in Susan Schneider, ed., *Science Fiction and Philosophy: From Time Travel to Superintelligence*, 2nd edition (Wiley, Blackwell, 2016). Chapter on “Personal Identity” reprinted in Joel Feinberg and Russ Shafer-Landau, eds., *Reason and Responsibility*, 15th edition (Wadsworth, 2013)

Logic for Philosophy (Oxford, 2010)

Writing the Book of the World (Oxford, 2011)

Edited Book

Contemporary Debates in Metaphysics (Basil Blackwell, 2007).
Co-editors: John Hawthorne, Dean W. Zimmerman

Articles

“Might Theory X Be a Theory of Diminishing Marginal Value?”,
Analysis 51 (1991): 265–71

“Tooley’s Solution to the Inference Problem”, *Philosophical Studies* 67
(1992): 261–75

“In Defense of Global Supervenience”, with R. Cranston Paull,
Philosophy and Phenomenological Research 52 (1992): 833–54

“Asymmetry and Self-Sacrifice”, *Philosophical Studies* 70 (1993):
117–32

- “Van Inwagen and the Possibility of Gunk”, *Analysis* 53 (1993): 285–89
- “Sorensen on Unknowable Obligations”, *Utilitas* 7 (1995): 273–79
- “Three Problems for Richard’s Theory of Belief Ascription”, *Canadian Journal of Philosophy* 25 (1995): 487–514
- “Sparseness, Immanence, and Naturalness”, *Noûs* 29 (1995): 360–77
- “Naturalness and Arbitrariness”, *Philosophical Studies* 81 (1996): 283–301
- “Intrinsic Properties”, *Philosophical Studies* 83 (1996): 1–27
- “All the World’s a Stage”, *Australasian Journal of Philosophy* 74 (1996): 433–53. Reprinted in Sally Haslanger and Roxanne Marie Kurtz, eds., *Persistence: Contemporary Readings* (Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 2006), 91–117, and in Kim, Korman, and Sosa, 511–26.
- “A New Grandfather Paradox?”, *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* 57 (1997): 139–44
- “On the Paradox of the Question”, *Analysis* 57 (1997): 97–101
- “Four-Dimensionalism”, *Philosophical Review* 106 (1997): 197–231. Reprinted in Haslanger and Kurtz, 55–87
- Critical Study of Michael Jubien’s *Ontology, Modality, and the Fallacy of Reference*, *Noûs* 33 (1999): 284–94
- “Presentism and Ontological Commitment”, *Journal of Philosophy* 96 (1999): 325–47. Reprinted in Haslanger and Kurtz, 367–91
- “Global Supervenience and Identity across Times and Worlds”, *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* 59 (1999): 913–37
- “The Stage View and Temporary Intrinsic”, *Analysis* 60 (2000): 84–88. Reprinted in Haslanger and Kurtz, 443–48
- “Simply Possible”, *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* 60 (2000): 585–90
- “Recent Work on Identity Over Time”, *Philosophical Books* 41 (2000): 81–89
- “Criteria of Personal Identity and the Limits of Conceptual Analysis”, *Philosophical Perspectives* 15, *Metaphysics* (Cambridge, MA: Blackwell, 2001), pp. 189–209
- “Maximality and Intrinsic Properties”, *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* 63 (2001): 357–64
- “The Ersatz Pluriverse”, *Journal of Philosophy* 99 (2002): 279–315

- “Hell and Vagueness”, *Faith and Philosophy* 19 (2002): 58–68
- “Time Travel, Coincidences and Counterfactuals”, *Philosophical Studies* 110 (2002): 115–38
- “Locations”, with John Hawthorne, *Philosophical Topics* 30 (2002): 53–76. Reprinted in John Hawthorne, *Metaphysical Essays* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2006), 31–52
- “Maximality and Microphysical Supervenience”, *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* 66 (2003): 139–49
- “Against Vague Existence”, *Philosophical Studies* 114 (2003): 135–46
- “Reductive Theories of Modality”, in Michael J. Loux and Dean W. Zimmerman, eds., *The Oxford Handbook of Metaphysics* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2003), pp. 180–208
- “What’s So Bad about Overdetermination?”, *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* 67 (2003): 719–26
- “Precis of *Four-Dimensionalism*” and “Replies to Critics”, *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* 68 (2004): 642–47, 674–87
- “Another Look at Armstrong’s Combinatorialism”, *Noûs* 39 (2005): 680–96
- “Traveling in A- and B- Time”, *The Monist* 88 (2005): 329–35. Reprinted in L. Nathan Oaklander, ed., *The Philosophy of Time, Vol. 4: Time and Physics* (Routledge: 2008)
- “Kripke’s Revenge”, with David Braun, *Philosophical Studies* 128 (2006): 669–82
- “Quantifiers and Temporal Ontology”, *Mind* 115 (2006): 75–97
- “‘Bare Particulars’”, *Philosophical Perspectives* 20 (2006): 387–97
- “Against Monism”, *Analysis* 67 (2007): 1–7
- “Vague, so Untrue” (with David Braun), *Noûs* 41 (2007): 133–56
- “Parthood”, *Philosophical Review* 116 (2007): 51–91
- “Neo-Fregeanism and Quantifier Variance”, *Aristotelian Society, Supplementary Volume* 81 (2007): 201–32
- “Temporal Parts”, in Theodore Sider, John Hawthorne, and Dean W. Zimmerman (eds.), *Contemporary Debates in Metaphysics* (Malden, MA: Blackwell, 2007): 241–62
- “Yet another Paper on the Supervenience Argument against Coincident Entities”, *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* 77 (2008): 613–24

- “Monism and Statespace Structure”, in Robin Le Poidevin, ed., *Being: Developments in Contemporary Metaphysics* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2008): pp. 129–50
- “Williamson’s Many Necessary Existents”, *Analysis* 69 (2009): 50–58
- “Ontological Realism”, in David Chalmers, David Manley, and Ryan Wasserman, eds., *Metametaphysics* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2009): pp. 384–423
- “Against Vague and Unnatural Existence: Reply to Liebesman and Eklund”, *Noûs* 43 (2009): 557–67
- “The Evil of Death: What Can Metaphysics Contribute?”, in Ben Bradley, Fred Feldman, and Jens Johansson, eds., *The Oxford Handbook of Philosophy and Death* (Oxford: 2012): 155–66
- “Against Parthood”, in Karen Bennett and Dean W. Zimmerman, eds., *Oxford Studies in Metaphysics*, volume 8 (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2013): 237–93
- Précis and replies to critics, symposium on *Writing the Book of the World*, *Analysis* 73 (2013): 713–15, 751–70
- Précis and replies to critics, symposium on *Writing the Book of the World, Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*, 87 (2013): 706–8, 733–54
- “Consequences of Collapse”, in Donald Baxter and Aaron Cotnoir, eds., *Composition as Identity* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2014): 211–21
- “Outscoping and Discourse Threat”, *Inquiry* 57 (2014): 413–26
- “Hirsch’s Attack on Ontologese”, *Noûs* 48 (2014): 565–72
- “Nothing Over and Above”, *Grazer Philosophische Studien* 91 (2015): 191–216
- “Comments on Saul Kripke’s *Philosophical Troubles*”, *Disputatio* 5 (2015): 67–80.
- “On Williamson and Simplicity in Modal Logic”, *Canadian Journal of Philosophy*, 46 (2016): 683–98. Also to appear in Mark McCullagh and Juhani Yli-Vakkuri (eds.), *Williamson on Modality* (Routledge, 2017)
- “Substantivity in Feminist Metaphysics”, *Philosophical Studies*, 2016
- “Ross Cameron’s *The Moving Spotlight*”, forthcoming in *Analysis Reviews*

Reviews

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- André Gallois, *Occasions of Identity*, *British Journal for the Philosophy of Science* 52 (2001): 401–5
- Charles Chihara, *The Worlds of Possibility*, *Philosophical Review* 110 (2001): 88–91
- Lynne Rudder Baker, *Persons and Bodies*, *Journal of Philosophy* 99 (2002): 45–48
- Trenton Merricks, *Objects and Persons*, *Mind* 113 (2004): 195–98

Work in Progress

- “Asymmetric Personal Identity”
- “Ground grounded”
- The Tools of Metaphysics and the Metaphysics of Science*

Presentations

- “Naturalness and Arbitrariness”, 1992: Virginia, Rochester; 1995: Pacific APA
- “All the World’s a Stage”, 1993: Rochester
- “Four-Dimensionalism”, 1993: UMass reunion conference; 1994: Pacific APA; 1996: Arizona, Michigan; 1997: Rutgers
- “Sparseness, Immanence, and Naturalness”, 1994: Rochester
- “Sorensen on Unknowable Obligations”, 1995: UNC Greensboro Ethics conference
- “Global Supervenience and Coincident Entities”, 1996: Pacific APA
- “The Ersatz Pluriverse”, 1996: Rochester; 1997: Pacific APA, Metaphysical Mayhem conference, Syracuse, Princeton; 1998: Yale; 2000: Massachusetts
- “Can there Exist Two Things at the Same Place at the Same Time?”, 1997: SUNY Geneseo
- “Criteria of Personal Identity and the Limits of Conceptual Analysis”, 1998: Pacific APA; 2001: Pew conference on persons
- “Presentism and Ontological Commitment”, 1998: Metaphysical Mayhem conference; 1999: Philosophy of Time Society, Central APA
- “Time and Temporal Parts”, 1999: Metaphysical Mayhem conference, UMass reunion conference; 2000: Rochester, Pacific APA, Connecticut (Ruth Evelyn Parcells Memorial Lecture)

“Against Presentism”, 1999: Cornell; 2000: Texas, Eastern APA

“Reducing Modality”, 2000: Bellingham Summer Philosophy Conference; 2002: Brown; 2003: St. Andrews, Colorado, Leeds; 2004: Manitoba; 2005: Cornell, Texas, Australasian Association of Philosophy conference, Arizona State

“Vague, so Untrue”, 2001: Western Washington, Calvin, UMass reunion conference, Virginia; 2002: UC Davis, MIT, Alabama; 2003: Oxford, Boise State, New Jersey Regional Philosophical Association, Princeton-Rutgers graduate student conference, Richmond, Leeds, Stockholm; 2004: Southern Illinois, Kentucky; 2005: Australian National University, Massey (NZ); 2006: Alberta, Miami

“Time Travel, Coincidences and Counterfactuals”, 2001: Inland Northwest Philosophy Conference

“Hell and Vagueness”, 2002: Union College, Alabama

“Time Travel”, 2002: SUNY New Paltz; 2003: Boise State, Rutgers undergraduate philosophy club

APA “Author meets critics” sessions on *Four-Dimensionalism*, San Francisco, Spring 2003; Washington, DC, December 2003

“Parthood”, 2003: Leeds, Central European University (Budapest); 2004: Queen’s (Ontario), Virginia, St. Louis, USC, Toronto, Criteria of Identity conference in Leuven Belgium; 2005: Arkansas, Missouri, Inland Northwest Philosophy Conference, Australian National University, Canterbury (NZ), Wisconsin; 2006: Calgary, Nassau CC, West Virginia

“Quantifiers and Temporal Ontology”, 2003: Leeds; 2004: Eastern APA; 2005: Cornell

“Kripke’s Revenge”, 2003: Leeds

“Another Look at Armstrong’s Combinatorialism”, 2003: Leeds

“Ontological Realism”, 2005: Australian National University conference on Metametaphysics, Otago (NZ), Victoria (NZ), Princeton, Oxford graduate student conference; 2006: Miami, Northern Illinois, Leeds conference on being, Brown graduate student conference, Brandeis; 2007: Utah, CUNY, Stanford, Chapel Hill Colloquium; 2008: Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, UCSB, Minnesota

“Philosophy of Time”, 2006: Metaphysical Mayhem conference; 2007: Arizona Ontology Conference

“Monism and Statespace Structure”, 2006: Yale graduate student conference; 2007: UMass reunion conference; 2008: Arizona Ontology Conference

“NeoFregeanism and Quantifier Variance”, 2006: Bellingham Summer Philosophy Conference; 2007: Aristotelian Society Joint Session

“Which Disputes are Substantive?”, 2007: Inland Northwest Philosophy Conference

“Logical Structure”, 2007: Connecticut

“The State of Metaphysics”, 2008 Alabama “Philosophy Today” speaker series

“Meta-metaphysics”, 2008: Alabama; 2009: Union College

“The Metaphysics of Fundamentality”, 2008: Oxford, Mountain-Plains conference, Virginia Commonwealth; 2009: NC State, Wayne State, Colorado Dependence Conference, UC Davis, CUNY UMass reunion conference; 2010: U of Vermont, Syracuse graduate student conference, Colorado, Ohio State; 2011: SUNY Albany graduate student conference, Berkeley, Nebraska, Indiana

“Time”, 2009: Guggenheim Museum *theanyspacewhatever* exhibition, Boswell Distinguished Lecture at Hobart and William Smith College

“Joint-carving and Meta-ethics”, 2009: Leeds workshop on Naturalism

“Metaphysics and the Real World”, 2010: NYU Philosophy Society, U of VT Dewey Lecture, Cal State Chico

“Passage”: 2009: Philosophy of Time Society; 2010: Future of Philosophy of Time workshop.

“Against Parthood”, 2009: Pacific APA (as “Nihilism and Ideology”); 2010: Bellingham Summer Philosophy Conference, Oxford graduate student conference; 2012: MIT, U of Texas graduate conference, Calvin College undergraduate conference, Buffalo, Notre Dame

“Structuralism”, 2010: Metaphysical Mayhem Conference

“Parts”, 2012: Metaphysical Mayhem Conference

“Modality”, 2012: NYU Mind and Language seminar

“Scientific Properties, and How Tools in Metaphysics Matter”, 2012:

Mellon Metaphysics Workshop at Cornell, Leeds; 2013: Harvard, Buffalo; 2014: Ranch Metaphysics Workshop, Columbia Metaphysics Conference, Rochester Metaphysics and Philosophy of Physics Workshop

“The Value of Joint-carving Belief”, 2012: keynote address, conference on The Aims of Inquiry and Cognition at the University of Edinburgh

Writing the Book of the World: responses to critics (Central APA author-meets-critics session, 2013)

Comments on Saul Kripke’s *Philosophical Troubles*, Eastern APA 2013

Comments on Timothy Williamson’s *Modal Logic as Metaphysics*, Central APA 2014

“Nothing Over and Above”, 2014: Columbia/NYU graduate conference

“Object-Free Metaphysics”, 2014: Metaphysical Mayhem Conference; 2016: Central APA

“Asymmetric Personal Identity”, 2014: Princeton; 2015: USC, Brown; 2016: Oriel College (Oxford University), Florida State, University of Connecticut graduate conference

“Equivalence from a Metaphysical Point of View”, 2015: Princeton conference on equivalent theories in metaphysics and physics; 2016: “Metaphysics after Carnap” conference at University of Leeds, Metaphysical Mayhem workshop; 2017: Ranch Metaphysics Workshop

“The Metaphysics of Science”, World Philosophy Day Lecture, University of Toronto, 2015

“Nomic Essentialism, and How Metaphysical Tools Matter”, VA Tech graduate conference, 2015

“The Tools of Metaphysics and the Metaphysics of Science”, John Locke Lectures, Oxford University, 2016

“Monism, Ground, and Structuralism”, 2016: Rutgers workshop on monism

Referee Work

For Kluwer Academic Publishers, Cambridge University Press, University of Toronto Press, Oxford University Press, Princeton University Press, Routledge Press, *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*, *British Journal for the Philosophy of Science*, *Canadian*

Journal of Philosophy, Erkenntnis, Ethics, International Studies in the Philosophy of Science, Linguistics and Philosophy, Mind, Noûs, Pacific Philosophical Quarterly, Philosopher's Imprint, Philosophical Quarterly, Philosophical Review, Philosophical Studies, Philosophy and Phenomenological Research, and Synthese

Courses taught

Undergraduate: philosophy of language; metaphysics; logic (introductory, intermediate, modal, mathematical, set theory); intro; applied ethics; science and pseudoscience; history of twentieth century philosophy; seminars on paradoxes, persistence

Graduate: survey courses in logic (modal, mathematical, set theory, logic for philosophy), metaphysics, philosophy of language; proseminar; research seminars on modality, parthood, identity, causation and laws, persistence, abstract entities, convention and modality, propositional attitudes, metaontology, fundamentality, intentionality, properties, ground, quantum mechanics

Dissertations Advised

Rochester: Bo Mou (with Rich Feldman); Rutgers: Ryan Wasserman, Maya Eddon, Jason Turner; NYU: Shieva Kleinschmidt, Jeff Russell, Olla Solomyak; Cornell: David Kovacs, Daniel Murphy, Eric Rowe

University Service

University of Rochester Administrative Committee, 1993–5
University of Rochester Faculty Council, 1996–8
University of Rochester Freshman Advising, 1993–8
University of Rochester Program Reviewer, Summer 1993–7
University of Rochester Mock Interviews for Rhodes Scholarship candidates, 1994–6
Syracuse University Summer advising, Freshman and Sophomore advising, and Freshman Forum, 1999–2000
Syracuse University Promotion and Tenure Committee, 1999
Rutgers University Promotion and Tenure Committee, 2004
Director of Graduate Studies, Cornell University, 2012–15

Professional Service

Editorial board, *Philosophical Studies*, *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews*

Board of associate editors, *Noûs*

American Philosophical Association Executive Committee, 2009–12

American Philosophical Association Eastern Division Program
Committee, 2016–

Nominating editor, *Philosopher's Annual*, 2012–