

## **CURRICULUM VITAE**

### **Kenneth A. Taylor**

Henry Waldgrave Stuart Professor of Philosophy  
Director, Symbolic Systems Program  
Department of Philosophy  
Stanford University

## **EDUCATIONAL HISTORY**

University of Chicago  
Chicago, Illinois

Ph.D. 12/84  
Philosophy

Dissertation: "Direct Reference and the Theory of Meaning"  
Committee: Leonard Linsky (chair), Josef Stern, William Tait

University of Notre Dame  
Notre Dame, Indiana

A.B. 5/77  
Program of Liberal Studies

## **GRADUATE AND POSTGRADUATE ACADEMIC HONORS:**

1991-92 Lilly Foundation, Teaching Fellow  
1990-91 Ford Foundation, Minority Postdoctoral Fellowship  
1989 NEH Summer Seminar for College Teachers  
1985-86 Carolina Minority Postdoctoral Fellowship, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill  
1982-83 Whiting Dissertation Fellowship  
1982-83 Dorothy Danforth-Compton Fellowship  
1977-81 Danforth Graduate Fellowship

## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

Institution and Location	Rank	Dates'
Stanford University Department of Philosophy Stanford, CA	Professor Assoc. Prof	2004- 7/95- 2004
Rutgers University Department of Philosophy New Brunswick, NJ	Assoc. Prof	7/92-6/95
University of Maryland Department of Philosophy College Park, MD	Asst Prof	8/89-6/92
Wesleyan University Department of Philosophy Middletown, CT	Asst Prof	7/85-6/89

U. of North Carolina Department of Philosophy Chapel Hill, NC	Postdoc	85-6/86
Middlebury College Department of Philosophy Middlebury, Vermont	V. Asst Prof V. Instr.	7/84-6/85 9/83-6/84

### VISITING PROFESSORSHIPS

Stanford University Department of Philosophy Stanford, CA		1/94- 6/94
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### Books

*Meaning and Truth: An Introduction to the Philosophy of Language.* London: Blackwell Publishers. 1998

*Reference and the Rational Mind,* Stanford: CSLI Publications, 2003

*Referring to the World: An Introduction to the Theory of Reference,* Oxford University Press (commissioned, under contract, expected completion, December 2010)

### **Articles**

"Davidson's Theory of Meaning: Some Questions" *Philosophical Studies* 48 (1985): 91-105

"Belief, Information and Semantic Content: A Naturalist's Lament" *Synthese* 71 (1987) 97-124

"We've Got You Coming and Going" *Linguistics and Philosophy* 11, 4 (1988): 493-513

"Narrow Content Functionalism and the Mind-Body Problem," *Nous* 23 (1989) 355-372

"Supervenience and Levels of Meaning," *Southern Journal of Philosophy* 27 (1989) 443-458

"The Pragmatics of Mode of Reference Selection," *Theories of Demonstratives and Indexicals*, a special issue of *Communication and Cognition*, 26 (1993), 97-126

"Simulation and Eliminative Materialism," *Proceedings of the 16th International Wittgenstein Symposium*, Volume 16(1993): 519-524.

"How Not to Refute Eliminative Materialism," *Philosophical Psychology* Volume 7 (1994): 101-125

"Meaning, Reference, and Cognitive Significance," *Mind and Language*, Vol. 10, (1995): 129-180.

"Same Believers," *Philosophical Issues*, vol 8 (1997): pgs 357-369.

"The Psychology of Direct Reference," *The Maribor Papers in Naturalized Semantics*, pgs 225-242. ed. by Dunja Jutronic. Maribor: University of Maribor Press (1997)

"What in Nature is the Compulsion of Reason?" *Synthese* 122, #1/2 (2000): 209-244.

"Emptiness without Compromise: A Referentialist Semantics for Empty Names." In Hofweber and Everett (eds). *Empty Names, Fiction, and the Puzzles of Non-Existence*. CSLI Publications. 2000: 17-36

"On the Explanatory Limits of Behavioral Genetics," in *Genetic Research and Criminal Behavior: Conceptual, Political, and Ethical Issues*, edited by David Wasserman, et al Cambridge University Press. 2001: 117- 140.

"Sex, Breakfast and Descriptus Interruptus" *Synthese* Volume 128, #1/2, (July 2001): 45-61.

"De Re and De Dicto: Against the Conventional Wisdom" *Philosophical Perspectives*, a supplement to *Nous*, vol. 36, no. s16, (October 2002): 225-265.

"What's in a Name?" (in *Reference and the Rational Mind*)

"Toward A Naturalistic theory of Rational Intentionality." (in *Reference and the Rational Mind*)

"Singular Beliefs and their Ascriptions." (in *Reference and the Rational Mind*)

"The Syntax and Pragmatics of the Naming Relation" in Claudia Bianchi (ed), *The Semantics Pragmatics Distinction*, CSLI Publications 2004.'

Bullshit and the Foibles of the Human Mind: What the Masters of the Dark Arts Know." In Hardcastle and Reisch (eds.) *Bullshit and Philosophy*. Open Court. 2006.

"Misplaced Subjects and the Illusion of Opacity," in O'Rourke and Washington (eds.) *Situating Semantics: Essays on the Philosophy of John Perry*, MIT Press, 2007.

Without the Net of Providence: Atheism and the Human Adventure" in *Philosophers Gods: An Anthology of Original Essays*, Oxford University Press, 2007.

"A Little Sensitivity goes a Long Way." In Preyer and Peter (eds.), *Content and Context: Essays on Semantics and Pragmatics*, Oxford University Press. 2007.

“Sign, Sign, Everywhere a Sign!” *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*, vol LXXV no 3, p 703-709, 2007

“Come essere un relativista,” (“How to be a Relativist”) In G. Marchetti (ed.) *La contingenza dei fatti e l'oggettività dei valori (The Contingency of Facts and the Objectivity of Values)*, Mimesis (Milan), 2009

“On Singularity,” in Robin Jeshion, (ed.) *Essays on Singular Thought*. Oxford University Press, 2010.

“Conceptual Relativism,” in Steve Hales (ed), *A Companion To Relativism*, Wiley-Blackwell Publishing, 2010.

“The Things We Do With Empty Names,” in Manuel Garcia-Carpintero and Genoveva Marti (editors), *Reference and Empty Names*, Oxford, Oxford University Press. (forthcoming 2011)

“Russell,” in Barry Lee, (ed). *Key Thinkers in the Philosophy of Language*, Continuum Books (in press forthcoming winter 2011)

“Reference and Jazz Combo Theories of Meaning.” In Joseph Keim Campbell, Michael O'Rourke and Harry S. Silverstein (eds) *Reference and Referring: Topics in Contemporary Philosophy, 10*, MIT Press (forthcoming, Spring 2012).

### **Reviews, Critical Notices and Encyclopedia Articles**

"Booknote of Forbes' *The Metaphysics of Modality*" *Ethics* (July 86)

"Review of Devitt and Sterelny, *Language and Reality*," *Philosophical Review* 99, #2 (1990)

"Critical Review of Fodor's *Psychosemantics*," *Nous* v. 24, #1 (1990) 181-84.

"Accommodationist Neo-Russellianism: A Critical Notice of Francois Recanati's *Direct Reference: From Language to Thought*" *Nous* : vol 31: #4 (1997): pg 538-556.

"Propositional Attitude Statements," in *Routledge Encyclopedia of Philosophy*, Routledge (1998).

“The Philosophy of Language,” in the *Online Encyclopedia of Cognitive Science*, MacMillian Publishing. (2002)

“Contextualism,” *The Pragmatics Encyclopedia*, Routledge, 2010.

### **WORK IN PROGRESS**

Books

*Toward a Natural History of Normativity*

Articles

“Pragmatics Everywhere”

“How to Hume a Kant-Hegel”

“Varieties of Co-reference”

“Representing Representations: The Priority of the De Re”

DISTINGUISHED LECTURESHIPS

Washington University, St. Louis. Distinguished Visiting Lectureship, October, 2005

Centenary College, Shreveport Louisiana, Attaway Fellow in Civic Culture, October 2007.

Whiteley Distinguished Lecture, Pacific University, Forest Grove Oregon, April 2008

Distinguished International Guest Lecture, the Logos Research Group, University of Barcelona, June – July, 2009 (delivered six lectures to faculty and students over the course of two weeks)

OTHER RECENT SCHOLARLY PRESENTATIONS

"Meaning, Reference, and Cognitive Significance"

University of Cincinnati, Conference on Language and Thought 3/90

Stanford University 4/91

Rutgers University 10/91

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor 10/93

"How not to Refute Eliminative Materialism"

Oberlin College 2/90

Central Michigan University 4/90

UMBC-Hopkins-UMCP Three College Colloquium 5/90

San Jose State University 4/91

Dartmouth College 5/91

Wesleyan University 4/92

East Carolina University, 11/93

"What is the Systematicity Argument in Fodor and Pylyshyn?"

American Philosophical Association

Eastern Division Meeting, 12/90

"Why Semantics Needs Concepts even if Linguistics Doesn't"

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- Donald Williams Memorial Conference, 4/93  
University of Maryland, College Park, MD

"Simulation and Eliminative Materialism,"

- 16th Annual Wittgenstein Symposium,  
Kirchberg am Wechsel, Austria 8/93

"Must Intentional Systems Be Rational?"

- East Carolina University, 11/93  
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, 11/93  
Stanford University, 2/94  
- Conference on Complex Representations: The place of Indicator Semantics in  
Cognitive Science, Virginia Technical University, 3/94  
The Graduate Center, CUNY 10/94  
Temple University. 10/94

“ Wittgenstein Meets the Cognitive Science of Common Sense”

- University of Connecticut, Storrs 12/94

"On the Explanatory Limits of Behavioral Genetics,"

Conference on the Genetic Basis of Criminal Behavior, Wye Woods, Maryland 9/95  
University of Maryland, Department of Philosophy, 11/95

"The Psychology of Direct Reference"

Conference on the Methodology of Naturalistic Semantics, Maribor, Slovenia, 6/96

"Same Believers"

9th annual Sofia Conference on Truth, Mexico 6/96

“Emptiness without Compromise: A Referentialist Semantics for Empty Names”

CSLI Conference on Empty Names, Stanford California, 5/97.  
UC Santa Cruz, 10/97.  
University of Southern California. 10/99

“ Sex, Breakfast, and Descriptus Interruptus”

Invited Symposium, Pacific Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association  
5/99.

"What In Nature is the Compulsion of Reason?"

University of California, San Diego 6/99

“Toward a Naturalistic Theory of Rational Intentionality”

University of New Mexico, 10/2000  
UC, Santa Cruz, 4/2003

“What’s in a Name?”

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University of California, Irvine 10/2001  
10<sup>th</sup> Annual LLC Workshop, Stanford CA 5/01

“De Re and De Dicto: Against the Conventional Wisdom.”  
Keynote address, Central Valley Philosophy Association  
Fresno State University 4/02

“Syntax and Pragmatics of the Naming Relation”  
Workshop on context, University of Genoa, Genoa Italy 10/02

“Singular Beliefs and their Ascriptions.”  
Jean Nicod Institute, Paris, France 10/02

De Re Thinkability and the One-Sidedness of Mental Representations: Comments on Kaplan”  
Pacific Division of the APA, San Francisco, CA 3/03

“Where Norms Come From: A Naturalistic Approach”  
University of British Columbia, April 2004  
University of Arizona, Tuscon, AZ. October 2004  
Washington University of St. Louis, April 2005  
Australian National University, August 2005  
Auckland Univeristy, Auckland NZ, August 2005  
Wellington University, Wellington NZ, August 2005

“Pragmatics Everywhere!”  
Australasian Association of Philosophy. Sydney Australia, July 2005  
Washington University of St. Louis, Conference on Semantics: Empirical and  
Psychological Evidence, April 2005.  
Rutgers University, March 2007  
UC Davis, February 2008

“A Little Sensitivity Goes a Long Way.”  
Author Meets Critics Session. Pacific APA, March 2005.

“Monstrous Contextualism.”  
Jean Nicod Institute. Paris France. April 2008

“On Singularity”  
Pacific APA, Invited Symposium on Singular Thought. April 2007.  
University of Oslo, Workshop on Reference, August 2007  
Conference on the Work of John Perry. University of Madrid. April 2008

“Varieties of Co-Reference”  
Pacific APA, Authors Meets Critics Session. April 2009

“How to be A relativist”

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New York University, March 2007

University of Nevada, Las Vegas, October 2008

“Reason, Relativism and the Human Normative Predicament”

University of Nevada, Las Vegas, October 2008,

Oregon State University, October 2009

“Representing Representations: The Priority of the De Re”

Conference on “A Matter of Attitudes,” Göttingen Germany, February 2010

“Reference and Jazz Combo Theories of Meaning”

Inland Northwest Philosophy Conference, University of Idaho, May 2010.

### **Public Outreach Activities**

Cohost, with John Perry of “Philosophy Talk” – a nationally syndicated public radio show now airing in about 50 markets. We produce approximately 32 episodes/year, about 25-33% of these are performed in front of live audiences at both local venues and venues around the country. In addition, through our exposure to a broader public via “Philosophy Talk” John Perry and I are on occasion invited to give talks/seminars and workshops around the country.

#### **Philosophy Talk Invited Public Appearances and Presentations.**

April 2006, Pacific Division of the APA, Portland Oregon. Topic: “The Future of Philosophy”

September 2006. The Smithsonian Institute, Resident Fellows Program. Washington, DC. Topic “The Promise and Perils of the New Genomics.”

July 2006. Capitol Hill, Washington, DC. “The Separation of Powers.”

May 2007. University of Delaware, Newark, Delaware. “Philosophy and Popular Culture.”

May 2007. Classic Residence by Hyatt, Palo Alto California. “Aging and the Well-lived Life”

June 2007. Powell’s City of Books, Portland Oregon. Topic: “Poetry, Love, and Philosophy.”

September 2007. College of the Sequoias. Topic “The Philosophy of Immigration.”

October 2007. Centenary College. Topic “Work and the Self.”

February 2008, Powell’s City of Books, Portland Oregon. Topic: “Varieties of Love.”



May 2008. Classic Residence by Hyatt. "The Morality of Giving and Keeping."

January 2009. Illahee Institute, Illahee lecture Series. Portland Oregon. Topics: "Desire"  
"Beliefs Gone Wild"

April 2009. Keynote event of the 13th annual Pacific University Undergraduate Philosophy Conference. Pacific University, Forest Grove Oregon. Topic: "Social Networking"

May 2009. Classic Residence by Hyatt, Palo Alto California. Topic: "Money and Morality"

May 2009. Los Angeles chapter of the World's President's Organization. Interactive multi-media presentation on the topic of "Beliefs Gone Wild in the Corporate Setting."

June 2009. The Public Relations Seminar, Laguna Beach, California. With John Perry, gave an interactive, multi-media presentation on the topic of "Beliefs Gone Wild in the Corporate Setting" to the audience consisting of the chief communications officers of major non-profits and Fortune 500 companies.

October 2009. Oregon State University, Corvallis, Oregon. Topic: "Is it Wrong to Wreck the Earth"

October 2009. Keynote Event at the 61<sup>st</sup> Northwest Philosophy Conference, Portland Oregon. Topic: "Mind Reading."

November 2009. College of the Sequoias, in Vasalia California. Topic: "What Would Jesus Really Do?"

#### Upcoming Invited Philosophy Talk Appearances

May 2010. Palo Alto High School. Topic: tbd. We will for the first time present Philosophy Talk to an audience of high school students.

June 2010. American Humanists Association, San Jose California. Topic: "What is Humanism?"

September 2010, University of Washington, Seattle Washington. Topic: "Philosophy for Children." We have been invited, by the Center for Children and Philosophy, to present a show to an audience of 5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> graders, their parents, and UW students who are trained by the Center to teach philosophy to children.

#### Professional, University and Departmental Service

##### **Professional**

Occasional Referee, *Nous*, *Philosophical Psychology*, *Philosophy of Science*, *Synthese*, *Dialogue*, *Cognitive Science*, *Mind and Language*, Oxford University Press, University of Delaware Press, *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*, *American Philosophical Quarterly*.

Member, American Philosophical Association  
Member, APA Committee on Blacks in Philosophy, 1989-92  
Member, Society for Philosophy and Psychology  
Member, Executive Committee of the Society for Philosophy and Psychology, 1991-94  
Organizer, Conference on "Mind, Meaning, and Nature", Wesleyan University Spring 1989  
Co-Chair, Programming Committee, Society for Philosophy and Psychology, 1993 Annual Meeting  
Local Arrangements Coordinator for the 25th Annual Meeting of the Society for Philosophy and Psychology held at Stanford University, June '99.  
Member, Program Committee, Pacific Division of the American Philosophical Association, 2000- 2002  
Member, APA Committee on Lectures, Publications and Research, 20001-2004  
Organize an France-Stanford cooperative exchange on "Pragmatics" with collaborators from the Jean Nicod Institute in Paris France (2007 – 2008).  
Panelist for National Research Council/Ford Foundation Minority Post-doctoral Fellowships, 2000- 2002  
Panelist for ACLS Fellowship Selection Committee, 2009/2010 – 2010/2011.

### **University Committees and Service**

Dean's Curriculum Advisory Committee 1996/97- 98/99.  
Committee for Cognitive Science at CSLI 95/96, Chair 96/97 - 99/00  
Committee on Libraries, 96/97 - 98/99  
Humanities Center Fellow Selection Committee 97/98 01/02  
Advisory Committee for the Selection of Presidential Endowed Chairs 97/98.  
Faculty Advisory Committee to CSLI 99/00.  
Member, Diversity Action Council, subcommittee on faculty diversity. 2002 – 2004  
Advisory Board of the Stanford Humanities Center, 2006 - 2009  
H & S Committee on  
A & P Committee, 2006/2007 – 2007/2008  
Faculty Senate, 2009-  
Director, Symbolic Systems Program, 2009 -

### **Departmental Service and Committees:**

Member, Search Committee, Philosophy of Science 95/96  
Chair, Search Committee, History of Modern Philosophy, 96/97  
Chair, Search Committee, History of Modern Philosophy, 97/98  
Member, M&E Search Committee 97/98-98-99  
Member, Placement Committee, 96/97, 97/98, 98/99  
Liason to Symbolic Systems Program 97/98 -99/00  
Steering Committee, Symbolic Systems 98/99, 00/01  
Graduate Committee, 97/98, 98/99.  
Director of Undergraduate Studies, 99/00  
Department Chair, 2001 – 2004, 2005 – 2008.  
Admissions Committee, 2009  
Race and Ethnicity Search Committee, 2009-2010

