

MICAH E. LOTT

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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Associate Professor of Philosophy, Boston College, Spring 2018–Present
Assistant Professor of Philosophy, Boston College, Fall 2012–Spring 2018
Assistant Professor of Philosophy, Asian University for Women, 2011–2012

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Philosophy, University of Chicago, 2011
M.A. Theology, Fuller Theological Seminary, 2003
B.A. Philosophy and History, *summa cum laude*, University of Georgia, 2001

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Ethics, Meta-Ethics

AREAS OF COMPETENCE

Ancient Philosophy, Political Philosophy, Philosophy of Religion

PUBLICATIONS

Book Chapters

- “Your Life as a Whole: Narrative and the Human Good” in *After Virtue at 40*. Ed. Tom Angier (in press) Cambridge University Press.
- “Is Moral Education a Craft? Poiesis, Praxis, and Ethical Upbringing” in *Teleological Structures in Human Life: A Festschrift for Anselm Müller*. Ed. Christian Kietzmann. (2023) Routledge.
- “Elizabeth Anscombe on the Knowledge of Human Dignity” in *The Oxford Handbook of Elizabeth Anscombe*. Ed. Roger Teichmann. (2022) Oxford University Press.
- “The Comic Sword of Truth and Justice: Humor as a Moral Virtue” in *Neglected Virtues*. Eds. Glen Pettigrove and Christine Swanton. (2022) Routledge.
- “The Virtues of Attachment” with Keith Cox, in *Attachment and Character: Attachment Theory and the Developmental Psychology of Vice and Virtue*. Ed. Edward Harcourt. (2022). Oxford University Press. 105-121.
- “Aristotelian Naturalism and the Autonomy of Ethics” in *Aristotelian Naturalism: A Research Companion*. (2020). Springer. (German version previously published in *Der Aristotelische Naturalismus. Ein Handbuch*. Ed. Martin H Hähnel (2017) Springer.)

- “Foot’s Grammar of Goodness” in *Philippa Foot on Goodness and Virtue*. Ed. John Hacker-Wright (2018) Palgrave-Macmillan.
- “How political are virtue and happiness?” in *Aristotle’s Practical Philosophy: On the Relationship Between the Ethics and Politics*. Eds. Cohen de Lara and Brouwer (2017) Springer.
- “Justice, Function, and Human Form” in *Normativität des Lebens - Normativität der Vernunft?* Eds. Hähnel and Rothhaar (2015) Berlin: DeGrutyer, 75-92.

Articles

- “Practical Intelligibility and Moral Skepticism: Should Realists Worry About Grass-Counters and Hand-Claspers?” *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly* 102.1 (2021) 103-124.
- “Eudaimonism, Egoism, and Responsibility for Oneself” *Journal of Philosophical Research* (2020).
- “Moral Duties as Divine Commands: Is Kantian Religion Coherent?” *Faith and Philosophy* 37.1 (2020) 57-76.
- “Must Realists be Skeptics? An Aristotelian Reply to a Darwinian Dilemma” *Philosophical Studies* 175.1 (2018) 71-96.
- “Moral Implications from Cognitive (Neuro)science? No clear route” *Ethics* 127.1 (2016) 241-256.
- “Agency, Patiency, and Human Happiness: The Passivities Objection to Eudaimonism” *Ethical Theory and Moral Practice* 19.3 (2016) 773-786.
- “Is there a Role for ‘Human Nature’ in Debates about Human Enhancement?”
- co-authored with Daniel Groll. *Philosophy* 90.4 (2015) 623-651.
- “Morality, Accountability, and the Wrong Kind of Reason” *Utilitas* (Nov 2015) 1-13.
- “Because I Said So: Varieties of Practical Relevance in Plato’s *Crito*” *Polis: Journal for Ancient Greek Political Thought* 32.1 (2015) 3-31.
- “Why Be a Good Human Being? Natural Goodness, Reason, and the Authority of Human Nature” *Philosophia* 42.3 (2014) 761-777.
- “Situationism, Skill, and the Rarity of Virtue” *Journal of Value Inquiry* 48.3 (2014) 387-401.
- “Labor Exploitation, Living Wages, and Global Justice: An Aristotelian Account” *Journal of Catholic Social Thought* 11.2 (2014) 329-259.

- “Does Human Nature Conflict with Itself? Human Form and the Harmony of the Virtues” *American Catholic Philosophical Quarterly* 87.4 (2013) 657-683.
- “Moral Virtue as Knowledge of Human Form” *Social Theory and Practice* 38.3 (2012) 407-431.
- “Have Elephant Seals Refuted Aristotle?” *Journal of Moral Philosophy* 9.3 (2012) 353-375.
- “Ignorance, Shame and Love of Truth: Diagnosing the Sophist’s Error in Plato’s *Sophist*” *Phoenix: Journal of the Classics Association of Canada* 26 (2012) 36-56.
- “Restraint on Reasons and Reasons for Restraint: A Problem for Rawls’ Ideal of Public Reason” *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly* 87.1 (2006) 75-95.

Review Essay and Symposium Contribution

- “Constructing a Good Life” *Journal of Moral Philosophy* 13.3 (2016) 363-375.*
- “Explaining Value: Nagel on Normative Realism and Historical Teleology” *Expositions: Interdisciplinary Studies in the Humanities* 8.2. (2014) 26-37.†

Book Review

- Review of Jonathan Sanford *Before Virtue: Assessing Contemporary Virtue Ethics* (2015). Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews. Available at: <http://ndpr.nd.edu/news/before-virtue-assessing-contemporary-virtue-ethics/>

Philosophy Writing for a General Audience

- “The system isn’t broken. It’s fixed.” *Religions* 8.4 (April 2017). Contribution to interdisciplinary symposium on economic inequality. Available at: <http://www.mdpi.com/2077-1444/8/4/57/htm>
- “Running the Country Like a Business” with Lisa Ann Cockrel *The Hedgehog Review* (Oct 2016). Published online at: <http://iasc-culture.org/THR/channels/THR/2016/10/running-the-country-like-a-business/>
- “The Dignity and Priority of Labour in *Laborem Exercens*” *Comment: Public Theology for the Common Good* (March: 2012). Available at: https://www.cardus.ca/comment/article/4569/the-dignity-and-priority-of-labour/?utm_source=author=rss=Micah%2BLott

* 5,000-word review essay on Mark LeBar’s *The Value of Living Well*.

† 5,000-word contribution to a symposium on Thomas Nagel’s *Mind and Cosmos*.

- “Persons, Property, and Creation in Catholic Social Thought” *Comment: Public Theology for the Common Good* (October: 2011). Available: <http://www.cardus.ca/comment/article/2925/all-things-come-from-thee-persons-property-and-the-gifts-of-creation/>
- “Wildman at Work: Natural Virtue and Civic Life in *The Hurt Locker*” *The Point Magazine* (2010). Available at: <http://www.thepointmag.com/archive/wildman-at-work>

IN PROGRESS

- “Are Life Forms Real? Aristotelian Naturalism and Biological Science” with Jennifer Lockhart. (Under Review)

PRESENTATIONS

- “Elizabeth Anscombe on the Knowledge of Human Dignity”
Comillas Pontifical University: Madrid, Spain. Invited lecture. June 2019
- “Was There a Normative Lottery and Did We Win It?”
Conference on Ethics and Evolution: NTU, Singapore. Oct 2018
- “Upbringing as Ethical Task and Poietic Practice”
Conference on the Work of Anselm Müller: University of Leipzig. July 2018
- “Moral Virtue, Worldly Wisdom, and Skill”
Conference on Virtue, Skill, and Reason at University of Cape Town. Aug 2017
- “Attached to Virtue?” with Keith Cox
Conference on Natural Goodness and Development: Oxford University. Oct 2016
- “Natural Science, the Autonomy of Ethics, and Human Good”
Conference on the Evolution of Cooperation: University of Cambridge. June 2016
- “Darwin, Aristotle, and Moral Knowledge”
- University of Virginia: May 2016
- Catholic University of America: March 2015
- “The System isn’t Broken, it’s Fixed: Arguing about Economic Inequality”
Growing Apart Conference on Inequality: Boston College. May 2016
- “The Comic Sword of Truth and Justice: Humor as a Moral Virtue”
Conference on Neglected Virtues: University of Auckland, NZ. August 2015
- “How political are virtue and happiness?”
Amsterdam University College. June 2015
- “Why Be a Good Human Being?”
Normativity of Life & Reason Conference: Eichstatt, Germany. May 2014

- Comments on Jeff McMahan: Conference “On Violence”. Boston College: March, 2014
- “From Need to Right: Anscombe on Stopping Modals and the Rights of Man”
The Moral Philosophy of Elizabeth Anscombe: St. Hugh’s, Oxford, UK: Sept 2013
- “Living Wages: Whose Responsibility?”
Symposium on Responsibility for Global Justice: Boston College: Sept 2013
- “The Poet’s Truck with Truth”
Association of Writers & Poets: Panel on Ethics of Creative Writing: Feb 2013
- “Comments on Anselm Mueller’s *The Teleology of Virtue*”
Virtue, Action, and Teleology Conference: University of Chicago: May 2011

TEACHING

Boston College

Happiness and Utopia	Spring 2022
The Value of Work	Autumn 2021
Good and Evil	Spring 2021
Mass Incarceration: Phil and Theo Perspectives	Spring 2021
What is Democracy and What is Worth?	Autumn 2020 & Spring 2022
Kant’s <i>Religion within the Boundaries of Mere Reason</i>	Autumn 2017
Contemporary Aristotelian Ethics	Autumn 2016 & Autumn 2020
Kant’s Moral Philosophy	Spring 2016
What is Moral Knowledge?	Autumn 2015 & Spring 2020
The Virtue of Justice	Autumn 2014
The State of Nature and the Nature of the State	Autumn 2014
Hume’s Moral Philosophy (graduate tutorial)	Spring 2014
Science, Brains, and Ethics	Spring 2014
Consequentialism and its Critics	Autumn 2013
Contemporary Aristotelian Naturalism	Spring 2013
Kant and Kantians on the Moral Law	Autumn 2012
Person and Social Responsibility*	Autumn & Spring 2012-2013
	Autumn & Spring 2013-2014
	Autumn & Spring 2015-2016
	Autumn & Spring 2016-2017
	Autumn & Spring 2017-2018
	Autumn & Spring 2019-2020
Graduate Teaching Seminar Facilitator	Autumn & Spring 2019-2020
	Autumn & Spring 2020-2021

* Two-semester course.

<u>Dharmaram Vidya Kshestram (Bangalore, India)</u>	
Philosophies of Love: Aquinas and Kierkegaard	Summer 2017
<u>Asian University for Women (Chittagong, Bangladesh)</u>	
The State of Nature and the Nature of the State	Spring 2012
Introduction to Ethics	Autumn 2011 & Spring 2012
Introduction to Political Philosophy	Autumn 2011
<u>University of Chicago</u>	
Human Being and Citizen	Spring 2011
Philosophical Foundations of Human Rights	Autumn 2010
Human Rights and Human Nature	Spring 2010
Morality and the Meaning of Life	Winter 2010
Divine Command Ethics (Junior/Senior Seminar)	Winter 2008

MA Thesis Supervisor, Boston College
Orrin Page: Autumn 2021-Spring 2022

Senior Thesis Supervisor, Boston College
Rose Silva: Autumn 2021-Spring 2022
Rayan Habab: Autumn 2019-Spring 2020
Rebecca Swofford: Autumn 2019-Spring 2020
Michael Chin: Autumn 2017-Spring 2018
Christine Qin: Autumn 2016-Spring 2017
James Andreoli: Spring 2017
Lucas Perry: Autumn 2015-Spring 2016
Charles Groome: Autumn 2014
Erin Curran Autumn: 2013-Spring 2014

SERVICE AND EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Philosophy Department

- Director of Undergraduate Studies: Summer 2021-present.
- Head of organizing committee for LaBrecque Medical Ethics Lecture: Autumn 2020-present.
- Member of Philosophy Department Graduate Committee: Autumn 2019- Spring 2021.
- Presentation on Augustine's *Confessions* to MA students at Boston College. April 2018.
- Faculty coordinator for Boston College Ethics Workshop: Spring 2016 – present.
- Member of Philosophy Department Undergraduate Committee: Autumn 2016 – Spring 2017
- Member of the LaBrecque Lecture Series Committee: Spring 2013 – present.
- Member of Philosophy department search committee for professor of political philosophy: Dec 2017— January 2018.
- Member of Philosophy department search committee for assistant professor of the practice: Dec 2016 – January 2017.
- Hosted screening and discussion of *Her* (film) for BC philosophy undergraduates: May 2017

- “Comedy as Political Philosophy” presentation and discussion with BC philosophy undergraduates: April 21, 2016.

Boston College

- Participant in Boise Center seminar on capitalism, hosted by Frank Garcia and Mark Massa: Autumn 2021-present
- Panelist for session “Bridging Classroom and Community” as part of BC Excellence in Teaching Day: May 2017.
- Reviewer for BC Advanced Study Grants: April 2016, April 2017, & April 2018
- Organized “Good People” reading for PULSE students with P. Riggin: Spring 2016
- Participant in two-semester, interdisciplinary BC faculty seminar on economic inequality, sponsored by the BC Jesuit Institute (chaired by Prof. Ken Himes): 2015-2016
- Presentation and discussion for undergraduates on the topic: “Is Moral Virtue Intrinsically Valuable for Augustine?” Saint Thomas More Society: Boston College: Nov 2012
- Member of BC faculty group traveling to Santiago, Spain: July 2016
- Member of BC faculty group traveling to Nicaragua: May 2013.

Community

- On stage interview with poets Marie Howe and Padraig O Tuoma. Festival of Faith and Writing at Calvin College, MI: Apring 2018.
- Veritas Forum moderator with Ian Hutchinson and Alex Byrne. Boston College: April 2017
- Veritas Forum moderator with philosopher Meghan Sullivan: Boston College: April 2016
- Hosted screening and discussion of *The Act of Killing* at Carleton College, MN: Jan 2017
- On stage interview on philosophy and literature with Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist Paul Harding. Festival of Faith and Writing at Calvin College, MI: April 2016.

Discipline

- Co-leader of SACRU working group “AI, Agency, and the Human Good” (Summer 2021-present)
- Reviewer for: *Philosophical Quarterly*, *Journal of Philosophical Research*, *European Journal of Philosophy*, *Social Theory and Practice*, *Synthese*, *Neuroethics*, *Journal of Value Inquiry*, *Philosophia*, *Philosophical Studies*, *Journal of APA*
- Commentator for Eastern APA panel on well-being (Jan 2018)
- Chair of Central APA panel “Can Normativity be Naturalized?” Feb 2014
- Member of two-week Character Project Summer Seminar, led by Christian Miller. Wake Forest University: Summer 2013