

**Duncan Purves**

March 2019

[mailto:duncan.purves@dpurves@ufl.e](mailto:duncan.purves@dpurves@ufl.edu)

du

(573) 819-2288

Department of Philosophy  
University of Florida  
330 Griffin-Floyd Hall  
Gainesville, FL 32611-8545

**AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION**

Ethical Theory, Applied Ethics, Environmental Philosophy, Bioethics

**AREAS OF COMPETENCE**

Metaphysics, Social and Political Philosophy

**ACADEMIC POSITIONS**

Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy  
University of Florida

Fall 2017—

Faculty Fellow, Center for Bioethics and Department of Environmental Studies  
New York University

Fall 2015—Summer 2017

Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy  
University of Wyoming

Fall 2014—Spring 2015

Lecturer, Department of Philosophy  
University of Colorado Boulder

Fall 2013—Spring 2014

**EDUCATION**

PhD in Philosophy, University of Colorado-Boulder, 2013

BA in Philosophy, BA in French, University of Missouri-Columbia (*magna cum laude*), 2006

**PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS**

“Harming as making worse off”

*Philosophical Studies*, 28 pages, <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11098-018-1144-1>      forthcoming

“Wild animal suffering is intractable”

*Journal of Agricultural and Environmental Ethics* 31(2): 239 – 260 (with Nicolas Delon)      2018

“Meaning in the lives of humans and other animals” (first author)

*Philosophical Studies* 175(2): 317 – 338 (with Nicolas Delon)      2018

- “Desire satisfaction, death, and time”  
*Canadian Journal of Philosophy* 47(6): 799 – 819 2017
- “A quiet revolution in organ transplant ethics”  
*Journal of Medical Ethics* 43(11): 797 – 800 (with Arthur Caplan) 2017  
 Reprinted in the *University of Tokyo Center for Biomedical Ethics and Law Report* 1(1) 2018
- “A new argument for the irrelevance of equality for intrinsic value”  
*Philosophia* 45: 277 – 297 (with Stephen Kershnar) 2017
- “When AI should do the wrong thing”  
 in *Robot Ethics 2.0*, OUP (with Ryan Jenkins and Brian Talbot) 2017
- “A dilemma for moral deliberation in AI”  
*International Journal of Applied Philosophy* 30(2): 313 – 335 (with Ryan Jenkins) 2016
- “Robots and respect: a response to Sparrow”  
*Ethics and International Affairs* 30(3): 391 – 400 (with Ryan Jenkins) 2016
- “Accounting for the harm of death”  
*Pacific Philosophical Quarterly* 97(1): 89 – 112 2016
- “Non-identity for non-humans” (first author)  
*Ethical Theory and Moral Practice* 19(5): 1165 – 1185 (with Ben Hale) 2016
- “Right intention and the ends of war” (first author)  
*Journal of Military Ethics* 15(1): 18 – 35 (with Ryan Jenkins) 2016
- “The significance of personal identity for death”  
*Bioethics* 29: 681 – 682 2015
- “Autonomous machines, moral judgment, and acting for the right reasons” (first author)  
*Ethical Theory and Moral Practice* 18: 851 – 872 (with Ryan Jenkins and Bradley Strawser) 2015
- “The harms of death”  
 Cholbi, Michael (ed.) *Immortality and the Philosophy of Death*. Rowman & Littlefield 2015
- “Torture and incoherence: a reply to Cyr”  
*The Journal of Ethics* 19(2): 213 – 218 2015
- “Genetically modified organisms, future generations, and the limits of precaution”  
*Social Philosophy Today* 31: 99 – 109 2015
- “Human non-human chimeras: enhancement or creation?”  
*American Journal of Bioethics* 14(2): 26 – 27 2014

- “Anthropocentric indirect arguments and anthropocentric moral attitudes”  
*Ethics, Policy, and Environment* 17(3): 267 – 270 2014
- “A counterexample to two accounts of harm”  
*Southwest Philosophy Review* 30(1): 243 – 250 2014
- “Still in hot water: doing, allowing, and Rachels’ bathtub cases”  
*Southwest Philosophy Review* 27: 129 – 137 2012
- EDITED BOOK**  
*Ethical Underpinnings of Climate Economics*—Routledge Earthscan 2016
- SELECTED PRESENTATIONS**
- “Predictive policing: unbiased and unfair?” April 2019  
 Information Ethics Roundtable: Conference on Justice and Fairness in  
 Machine Learning and Big Data, Northeastern University
- “Predictive policing and the demands of justice” May 2018  
 Cal Poly Philosophy Department and Department of Computer Science and  
 Software Engineering (Invited)
- “The ethics and ecology of genetic interventions to prevent wild animal suffering,”  
 CU Boulder’s Environmental Studies Departmental Colloquium Series (Invited) March, 2018
- Rutgers-Camden’s Philosophy Department Workshop on Enhancements (Invited) April, 2018
- Convergence and Divergence between Animal and Environmental Ethics,  
 Centre de Recherche en Éthique, Montreal, Quebec May 2017
- Second Annual Bovay Workshop on Engineering and Applied Ethics  
 Texas A&M March 2017
- “Autonomous weapon systems: research, risk, and responsibility” (Invited)  
 Dialogues in Research Ethics, University of Miami Institute for Bioethics  
 and Health Policy November, 2017
- “Desire satisfaction, death, and time” August 2017  
 The Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress, CU Boulder
- “Meaning in the lives of humans and other animals” May 2017  
 Human and Non-human Animals: Minds and Morals  
 University of Connecticut, Storrs CT

“Should we design artificial intelligence to have false moral beliefs?” The Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress, CU Boulder	August 2016
“Harming, failing to benefit, and the causing/allowing distinction” Bled Philosophical Conference, Bled, Slovenia	June 2016
“Life-improving organ transplantation: some ethical questions” Invited Speaker, Society of Bioethics and Medicine, Brooklyn College	Spring 2016
“Death and timeless values” The International Association for the Philosophy of Death and Dying, Syracuse	May 2016
“Must robots be consequentialists?” The Future of Just War, Naval Postgraduate School	October 2015
The Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress, CU Boulder	August 2015
“The harms of death” Young Scholars Workshop for the Immortality Project, UC Riverside	May 2015
“Intergenerational justice and discounting the future” Central American Philosophical Association (colloquium), St. Louis	February 2015
“Criteria for a successful account of the harm of death” International Association for the Philosophy of Death and Dying, Pomona	October 2014
“The case for discounting the future” Workshop on the Ethical Underpinnings of Climate Economics, Helsinki	November 2014
“Right intention and the ends of war” Meeting of the International Society for Military Ethics, Notre Dame	October 2014
“How to raise the levelling down objection without appealing to the slogan” The Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress, CU Boulder	August 2014
“A counterexample to two accounts of harm” Annual Meeting of the Southwestern Philosophical Society	November 2013
“You are what I eat: moral implications of GMOs for future generations” International Social Philosophy Conference, Quinnipiac	July 2013
“Death and disability: two problems for the event-based account of harm” Pacific American Philosophical Association (colloquium), San Francisco	March 2013
“The non-identity problem and the levelling-down objection”	

Illinois Philosophical Association, UI Urbana-Champaign	November 2012
“The distinctive feeling of desire theory of pleasure” Midsouth Philosophy Conference, Rhodes College, Memphis	February 2012
“Still in hot water: doing, allowing, and Rachels’ bathtub cases” Annual Meeting of the Southwestern Philosophical Society	November 2010

#### **COMMENTARIES**

Comments on John Basl, Jeff Behrends, and Mark Lee, “Of trolleys and Tesla: Could trolley cases help us understand how to program autonomous vehicles?” Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress, CU Boulder, Boulder, CO	August 2018
Comments on Matthew Hanser’s “The moral significance of harm” and Molly Gardner’s “Harming, doing harm, and causation” Symposium on the nature and moral significance of harm at the Pacific Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association, San Diego, CA	March 2018
Comments on Sharisse Kanet’s “Minding the gap” International Society for Environmental Ethics, Allenspark, CO	June 2014
Comments on Molly Gardner’s “On the strength of the reason against harming” Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress, CU Boulder, Boulder, CO	August 2013
Comments on Christopher Pynes’ “The potentiality problem redux” Midsouth Philosophy Conference, Rhodes College, Memphis, TN	February 2012

#### **AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS**

Humanities Scholarship Enhancement Fund Award, (\$10,668)	Summer 2019
Workshop Fellow—NEH Summer Institute, “Extending the Land Ethic”	Summer 2016
Invited participant—Younger Scholars Workshop, Templeton Immortality Project	Spring 2015
Research Travel Grant International Society for Environmental Ethics	Fall 2014
Research Travel Grant—International Programs at the University of Wyoming	Fall 2014
University of Colorado Graduate School Conference Travel Grant	Fall 2012
Graduate Part-time Instructor Teaching Excellence Award Nominee	Fall 2012
Summer Graduate School Dissertation Fellowship	Summer 2012

University of Colorado Devaney Dissertation Fellowship, Departmental Nominee	Spring 2012
Philosophy Department Summer Graduate Research Fellowship	Summer 2011
Philosophy Department Dissertation Fellowship	Fall 2011
Travel Grant awarded by United Government of Graduate Students	Spring 2010
Graduate Research Fellow under supervision of Brian Talbot	Fall 2010/Spring 2011
Philosophy Department Summer Graduate Research Fellowship	Summer 2007-2010

**TEACHING**

Philosophy of Death	UF Fall, 2018
Moral Philosophy	UF Spring 2018, Fall 2018
Ethics of Technology	UF Spring 2018
Ethical Theory-Graduate Seminar	UF Fall 2017
Contemporary Moral Issues	UF Fall 2017
Ethics and Animals	NYU, Fall 2016
Advanced Environmental Ethics-Graduate Seminar	NYU, Spring 2016, Spring 2017
Ethics and the Environment	NYU, Fall 2015, Fall 2016
Justice in Health and Healthcare-Graduate Seminar	NYU, Fall 2015
Metaphysics for Ethics-Graduate Seminar	UW, Spring 2015
Philosophy of Language	UW, Spring 2015
Introduction to Philosophy	UW, Fall 2014
Natural Resource Ethics	UW, Spring 2015, Fall 2014
Bioethics	CU, Spring 2014
Environmental Justice	CU, Fall 2013
Environmental Ethics	CU, Summer 2013, Fall 2013

Philosophy and Society	CU, Spring 2013, Spring 2014
Philosophy and Race	CU, Spring 2012, Fall 2012

**MA THESIS SUPERVISION**

Kristina Sokourenko, “Public schools, hospitals, and prisons: the institutional power to nudge”	NYU Summer 2017
Sean Jensen, “GP-Write and the moral permissibility of human enhancement”—Philosophy PhD candidate, U. of Twente	NYU Summer 2017
Rasmus Mikkelsen, “Sentience and interests”	NYU Summer 2017
Katherine Mintz, “Retractions: the disappointing everyman”	NYU Spring 2017
Michael Corbett, “Easy rescue and the state: on the justifiable use of force to save distant people”	NYU Spring 2017
Emily Slome, “Addressing the ethics of removing the financial disincentive of living kidney donation”—Philosophy PhD candidate, CU Boulder	NYU Spring 2017
Stephanie Peterson, “What we owe: justice for climate refugees”	NYU Spring 2016
Samatha Nemana, “Implementing justice through water access: the PRWSSIP project and gendered access to water resource management”	NYU Fall 2015
Shaked Landor, “Growing up green: a garden-based learning (GBL) proposal to addressing anthropogenic climate change”	NYU Fall 2015

**MEDIA**

“Killer Robots: New Reasons to Worry About Ethics”, Interview with Forbes	January, 2016
“The Badness of Death”, blog post for 1000-Word Philosophy Blog	May, 2014
“The Non-identity Problem”, blog post for 1000-Word Philosophy Blog	February, 2014
Review of <i>Climate Matters</i> by John Broome, <i>The Philosopher’s Magazine</i>	2013

**ACADEMIC SERVICE**

Mentor, University of Florida Minority Mentor Program	2018 – 2019 AY
“Who Should You Trust?: Thinking for Yourself and Trusting Experts,” Public presentation for UF undergraduates	Fall 2017

Program Committee Member  
International Association for the Philosophy of Death and Dying                      Fall 2017 – Spring 2018

Judge, NYC High School Ethics Bowl    Winter 2017

Lead coordinator, NYC Early Career Ethicists Workshop    Fall 2016—Fall 2017

Faculty consultant—NYU Philosophy Outreach Program    Spring 2016

Graduate admissions committee, NYU Center for Bioethics    Fall 2016—Summer 2017

Assistant organizer, Stoic Camp hosted by U. of Wyoming Philosophy    Spring 2015

Committee member, Biodiversity Institute Grant Competition, U. of Wyoming                      Spring 2015

“The Ethics of Drone Warfare,” for the U. of Wyoming Philosophy Club                      Spring 2015

Graduate coordinator, Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress, U. of Colorado                      2008—2013

Co-organizer, Rocky Mountain Philosophy Conference, U. of Colorado                      2011

Department representative, Graduate Student Government, U. of Colorado                      2008—2009

Research affiliate, *The Committee on Environmental Thought*: <http://environmentalthought.com/>.

Contributor, *1000-Word Philosophy Blog*.

Referee for *Public Affairs Quarterly*, *Environmental Philosophy*, *Dialectica*, *Philosophy and Technology*,  
*Journal of Social Philosophy*, *Journal of Ethics and Social Philosophy*, *Journal of Medical Ethics*,  
*Utilitas*, *Canadian Journal of Philosophy*, *Journal of Moral Philosophy*, *Journal of Applied  
Philosophy*, *Journal of Military Ethics*, *Journal of Science and Engineering Ethics*, *Philosophical  
Papers*, *Philosophia*, *Southwest Philosophy Review*, *Ethical Theory and Moral Practice*, *Analysis*,  
*Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress*