

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR RACHEL KATHARINE STERKEN

Department of Philosophy, Classics, History of Art and Ideas, University of Oslo

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Research Areas

Philosophy of Language, Philosophical Linguistics (Semantics and Pragmatics), Philosophy of Mind, Metaphysics, Social/Political Philosophy of Language, Philosophy of Social Science, some areas of Developmental and Social Psychology

Employment

- 2018-Present Co-Director and Researcher
The Concept Lab
Norwegian Research Council *Toppforsk* Project
Department of Philosophy, Classics, History of Art and Ideas, University of Oslo
- 2017-Present Associate Professor of Philosophy
Department of Philosophy Classics, History of Art and Ideas, University of Oslo
- 2013-2017 Senior Lecturer/Fixed Term Associate Professor/Visiting Researcher
Department of Philosophy, Classics, History of Art and Ideas, University of Oslo

Education

- 2013 University of St Andrews and University of Oslo
PhD in Philosophy (double-badge)
Thesis: *Generics in Context: Generalization, Context and Communication*
Supervisors: Ephraim Glick, Olav Gjelsvik and Brian Weatherson
Committee: Sarah-Jane Leslie and Jeff Pelletier
- 2011 University of California – Berkeley
Visiting Research Student
- 2008 University of Amsterdam
MSc in Logic and Mathematics
Thesis: *Concatenation as a Basis for Q and the Intuitionistic Variant of Nelson's Result*
Supervisor: Albert Visser
- 2005 University of Toronto
Honors BSc in Mathematics and Philosophy (*with Distinction*)

Publications

1. "Generics in Context". *Philosopher's Imprint*, 15(21), 2015.
2. "Leslie on Generics". *Philosophical Studies*, 172(9), 2015.
3. "Generics, Content and Cognitive Bias". *Analytic Philosophy*, 56(1), 2015.
4. "Generics, Covert Structure and Logical Form". *Mind and Language*, 31(5), 2016.
5. "Nickel's Between Logic and the World: An Integrated Theory of Generics". *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews*, 2016.
6. "The Meaning of Generics". *Philosophy Compass*, 12(8), 2017.

7. **Genericity in Philosophy and Linguistics**, co-edited volume with B. Nickel, Harvard, special issue of the journal *Inquiry*, 2018.

8. "The Structures of Structural Explanation". *Disputatio*, 2019.

9. "Linguistic Intervention and Transformative Communicative Disruptions" in Burgess, Cappelen and Plunkett (eds.), *Conceptual Engineering and Conceptual Ethics*, Oxford University Press, 2019.

Under Review and In Preparation

10. "Language Signaling High-Proportions, Not Just Generics, Leads to Generalizing and Essentializing". (with E. Hoicka, Bristol and J. Saul, Sheffield), revise and resubmit with *Developmental Psychology*.

11. "What's New About Fake News?", revise and resubmit with *Journal of Ethics and Social Philosophy*.

12. "Generics and the Metaphysics of Kinds" (commissioned by *Philosophy Compass*)

13. "The Routledge Handbook of Social and Political Philosophy of Language" (commissioned by Routledge, co-edited with J. Khoo, MIT), in preparation.

14. "Generics and Essentializing" in Khoo and Sterken (eds.), *The Routledge Handbook of Social and Political Philosophy of Language*, in preparation.

15. "Introduction" (with J. Khoo, for *The Routledge Handbook of Social and Political Philosophy of Language*), in preparation.

16. *Semantics and Epistemology in the Digital Age*, co-edited volume with E. Michaelson and J. Pepp, special issue of the journal *Inquiry*, in preparation.

Selected Recent Presentations

2019 Swedish Congress of Philosophy (invited keynote), *Speaking Authentically*

British Postgraduate Philosophical Association Masterclass (invited), *Speaking Authentically and Hermeneutical Gaps*

Uppsala Higher Seminar in Theoretical Philosophy (invited), *Speaking Authentically*

Workshop New Frontiers of Speech: Philosophy of Online Speech and Communication, University of Uppsala, *Norms for Speech Acts and the Division of Epistemic Responsibilities between Senders and Receivers* (with G. Björnsson, J. Pepp and E. Michaelson)

2018 2nd California Philosophy Workshop, *Comments on G. Johnson's 'The Structure of Bias'*

Stockholm and Uppsala Workshop on Direct and Indirect Speech (invited), *Amelioration and Meaning Change*

New York Philosophy of Language Workshop (invited), NYU, *Transformative Communicative Disruptions*

Sherbrooke Workshop on Generics and Social Practices (refereed), Sherbrooke, *Troubling Aspects of Generic Thought and Talk*

The Iceland Meaning Workshop (invited), University of Iceland, *Comments on R. McKinney 'Narrative, Ritual and Social Construction'*

Department of Philosophy colloquium, University of Hong Kong, *Troubling Aspects of Generic Thought and Talk*

Concept Lab Working Group Meeting, University of Oslo, *Comments on A. Thomasson's 'A Pragmatic Method for Conceptual Ethics'*

- 2017 Bergen Women in Philosophy Workshop (invited), University of Bergen, *Troubling Aspects of Generic Thought and Talk*
 A Generic Workshop, CSLI and Department of Psychology, Stanford University, *Generics in Context*
 California Philosophy Workshop, UCLA, *The Structures of Structural Explanation*
 Semantics and Communicative Effects of Slurs Conference (invited), Arche, University of St Andrews
Transformative Communicative Disruptions
 Author-Meets-Critics Session (invited), American Philosophical Association Eastern Division Meeting, Baltimore, Maryland,
Nickel's Between Logic and the World
 Ranch Metaphysics Workshop (invited), Tucson, Arizona, *Transformative Communicative Disruptions*
- 2016 Departments of Philosophy and Cognitive Science, Rutgers University (invited)
 What is Cognitive Science Series, *Generics, Quantified Generalizations and Social Prejudice*
 NOMOS Network Meeting, University of Pompeu Fabra (invited)
 Symposia on Haslanger's Doing Justice to the Social, *The Structures of Structural Explanation*
 Arche, University of St Andrews (invited), Meaning and Language Seminar, *Amelioration, Meaning Change and Deception*
 King's College London and Institute of Philosophy (invited), Workshop on Deception
Amelioration, Meaning Change and Deception
- 2015 University of Warwick (refereed), Joint Session of the Aristotelian Society, *Generics, Kind-Predication and Context*
 Dartmouth College (invited), Dartmouth Philosophy of Language Workshop, *Generics in Context*
 CSMN Colloquium, CSMN, University of Oslo, *Generics and Social Prejudice*
- 2014 Philosophy of Language and Mind Network, Indexicality in Language and Thought
Comments on Corazza's 'The Essentiality of Indexical Thoughts'
- 2013 University of Umea (invited), Departments of Philosophy and Linguistics Colloquium
Generics, Context-Sensitivity and Logical Form
 University of Umea (invited), Philosophical Society
Generics and Prejudice
 École Normale Supérieure (invited), Institut Jean-Nicod Colloquium
Generics, Context-Sensitivity and Logical Form

Professional Service

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| Conference Organization | Genericity in Philosophy and Linguistics Conference Harvard University and University of Oslo (with B. Nickel) |
| Workshop Organization | Meaning Innovation and Meaning Change The Concept Lab, University of Oslo (with J. Armstrong) The Practical Implications of Defective Communication The Concept Lab, University of Oslo (with A. Peet) New Frontiers of Speech: Philosophy of Online Speech and Communication University of Uppsala (with E. Michaelson and J. Pepp) California Philosophy Workshop La Kretz Center for Conservation Science, UCLA (with J. Armstrong, A. Burgess and D. Plunkett) 2 nd California Philosophy Workshop La Kretz Center for Conservation Science, UCLA (with J. Armstrong, A. Burgess, D. Locke and D. Plunkett) A Generic Workshop |

CSLI, Departments of Psychology, Stanford University (with M.H. Tessler)

Refereeing *Philosophical Review, Oxford University Press, Nous, Philosopher's Imprint, Journal of Semantics, Ergo, Philosophical Quarterly, Synthese, Thought, Analysis, Inquiry, Mind and Language, Canadian Journal of Philosophy, Erkenntnis, Neuroethics, Journal of Social Theory and Practice, Brill.*

Grants and Awards

2018-2021 NFR Toppforsk project, co-director, with H. Cappelen, C. Serck-Hanssen, Ø. Linnebo.
2018-2019 Peder Sather Grant, with S. Yalcin (Berkeley), University of California-Berkeley.
2018-2019 NFR SAMKUL Network Grant, with J. Pepp (Uppsala) and E. Michaelson (KCL).

Teaching

As Lecturer:

Philosophy of Mind and Metaphysics (masters), Department of Philosophy, University of Oslo. (2017)

Philosophy of Mind and Metaphysics (advanced undergraduate), Department of Philosophy, University of Oslo. (2015, 2016, 2018)

Philosophy of Language (advanced undergraduate), Department of Philosophy, University of Oslo. (2013, 2017, 2019)

Ethics (undergraduate), Department of Philosophy, University of Oslo. (2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019)

History of Philosophy and Science (undergraduate), Department of Philosophy, University of Oslo. (2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018)

As Seminar Leader:

Logic (undergraduate), Department of Philosophy, University of Oslo. (2015, 2016)

Philosophy of Mind and Metaphysics (undergraduate), Department of Philosophy, University of Oslo. (2017, 2018)

Supervision and Departmental Service

PhD Coordinator, Department of Philosophy, University of Oslo. (2019-)

MA Supervision: I. Dale, M. Strøm-Natvig, M. Hurstad (2018-)

PhD Evaluation Committee: S. Kasin-Viksdal (2018)

MA Evaluation Committee: L. Faehn (2018), S. Nygaard (2016)

PhD Job Market and Postdoctoral Mentoring: S. Kasin-Viksdal (2019-), J. Vecht (2019-), J. Pollock (2018-)

Teaching Mentor: L. Townsend (2017)

Hiring Committees for PhD and Postdoctoral Positions (x3) (2017, 2018)

External for Hiring Committee for Associate Professor Position (2019)