

## *Curriculum Vitae*

### Michael Brent

University of Denver  
Department of Philosophy  
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### Specialization

Metaphysics, Philosophy of Action, Philosophy of Mind

### Competence

Epistemology, History of Early Modern, Ethics, Philosophy of Film

### Positions

University of Denver, Assistant Professor of Philosophy, 2014 – present  
Carthage College, Bradley Postdoctoral Fellowship, 2012 – 2014

### Education

Ph.D. Philosophy, Columbia University, 2012  
Dissertation: *The Power of Agency*  
Committee: Akeel Bilgrami, Carol Rovane, Taylor Carman  
M.Phil. Philosophy, Columbia University, 2008  
M.A. Philosophy, University of Toronto, 2003  
B.A. Philosophy, Honours with High Distinction, University of Toronto, 2001

### Articles & Book Chapters

- “Agent Causation as a Solution to the Problem of Action”, *Canadian Journal of Philosophy*, Vol. 47, No. 5 (2017), pp. 656–673
- “Understanding Strength of Will”, in *New Advances in Causation, Agency, and Moral Responsibility*, F. Bacchini, S. Caputo, and M. Dell’Utri, eds. (Newcastle: Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2014), pp. 165–178
- “Effort and the Standard Story of Action,” *Philosophical Writings*, Special Issue 2012, pp. 19–27

## Reviews

- Manuel Vargas and Gideon Yaffe (eds.), *Rational and Social Agency: The Philosophy of Michael Bratman*, (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2014), forthcoming in *Journal of Moral Philosophy*
- Jesús Padilla Gálvez and Margit Gaffal (eds.), *Intentionality and Action*, (Du Gruyter, 2017), forthcoming in *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews*

## Awards, Fellowships, & Grants

Rosenberry Grant, University of Denver, March 2017

Office of Teaching & Learning Grant, Student-Faculty Pilot Program, University of Denver, March 2017

Service Learning Scholars Grant, Center for Community Engagement & Service Learning, University of Denver, December 2016

Internationalization Grant, University of Denver, 2015, 2017

Invited Participant, NEH Summer Seminar on “Metaphysics and Mind”, Washington University in St. Louis, Summer 2013

Preceptor Award for Teaching Excellence in Contemporary Civilization, Columbia University, 2010

Finalist, Presidential Award for Outstanding Teaching by Graduate Students, Columbia University, 2010

Faculty Fellowship, Columbia University, 2003 – 2008

Summer Research Fellowship, Columbia University, 2004, 2007

Invited Participant, Teaching Great Books Seminar, Columbia University, Summer 2005

Gordon Cheesbrough Graduate Student Fellowship, University of Toronto, 2003

Open Fellowship, University of Toronto, 2002 – 2003

Distinguished Paper, New England Undergraduate Philosophy Conference, 2002

Dean’s List, University of Toronto, 2001

Participant, Colorado University Summer Seminar for Advanced Undergraduates, 2001

## Select Presentations

“The Ubiquity of Effort”, Invited Symposium, American Philosophical Association, Central Division Meeting, February 2018

Comments on Rick Repetti’s *Buddhist Perspectives on Free Will: Agentless Agency?*, Author-Meets-Critic Session, American Philosophical Association, Eastern Division Meeting, January 2018

Comments on Andrei Buckareff and Jesús Aguilar’s “Guiding Agency”, Society for the Metaphysics of Science, Fordham University, October 2017

“You Are Not an Event (Are You?)”, Works in Progress Seminar, University of Denver, October 2016

## Select Presentations (cont.)

“Mental Action and the Metaphysics of Mind”, Works in Progress Seminar, Rice University, April 2016

“Mental Action and the Metaphysics of Mind”, New Directions in the Study of Mind Seminar, University of Cambridge, December 2015

“Effort, Agent, and Cause”, The First-Person Perspective in Agency Workshop, University College Dublin, October 2015

Comments on Samuel Murray’s “O’Connor’s Argument for Indeterminism”, Colloquium, American Philosophical Association, Pacific Division Meeting, April 2015

Comments on Michael S. Brownstein’s “Automatic Agency”, Colloquium, American Philosophical Association, Eastern Division Meeting, December 2012

Comments on Christopher Evan Franklin’s “Masks, Abilities, and Opportunities: Why the New Dispositionalism Cannot Succeed”, Colloquium, American Philosophical Association, Pacific Division Meeting, April 2012

Comments on Ben Wolfson’s “Second Nature in Action and Perception”, Time and Agency Conference, George Washington University, November 2011

“Effort and the Standard Story of Action”, Annual Conference of the British Postgraduate Philosophy Association, University of Reading, September 2011

## Teaching & Supervision

### *University of Denver*

Philosophy, Psychology, Neuroscience, & Free Will (Advanced Seminar)

Civilization and its Discontents (First-Year Seminar)

Philosophy of Action and Agency (3000-level)

Nature and Limits of Human Knowledge (2000-level)

Early Modern Philosophy (2000-level)

20th Century Philosophy (2000-level)

Philosophy and Film (2000-level)

Philosophy and Graphic Novels (Independent Study)

Moral Psychology (Independent Study)

The Patriot Act and the NSA (Independent Study)

Early Modern Philosophy (Graduate-level Independent Study)

### *Carthage College*

Western Heritage: Journeys and Transformations (2012–2014)

Business Ethics (Spring 2014)

Introduction to Philosophy (Spring 2014)

## Teaching & Supervision (cont.)

### *Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science & Art*

- Ethics: Ideas of Right and Wrong (Spring 2011, Spring 2012)
- Texts and Contexts: Old Worlds and New (Spring 2011, Spring 2012)
- Modern Philosophy: Knowledge and Mind (Spring 2009, Fall 2011)
- Intention, Action, and Self-Knowledge (Fall 2008, Fall 2010)

### *Columbia University*

- Contemporary Civilization (2009–2010)
- Philosophical Methods and Problems (Summer 2009, Summer 2011)

### *Ryerson University*

- Philosophy and Film (Summer 2008)

## Service

- Conference Co-Organizer, *Mental Action & The Ontology of Mind*, Institute of Philosophy, London, U.K., November 2017
- Referee for *American Philosophical Quarterly*, *Analysis*, *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*, *Erkenntnis*, *Journal of the American Philosophical Association*, *Mind*, *Philosophical Psychology*, *Southern Journal of Philosophy*, *Synthese*, *Theoria*, and *Topoi*
- Assessment Coordinator, Department of Philosophy, University of Denver, Fall 2014 – present
- Faculty Liaison, Undergraduate Philosophy Club, University of Denver, Fall 2015 – present
- Category Editor, PhilPapers Project, January 2013 – present
- Invited Speaker, “Conversations in the Disciplines”, University of Denver, April 2017
- Coordinator, AHSS Faculty Happy Hour, University of Denver, January – June 2017
- Invited Speaker, “Let’s Hash It Out” Feminism Panel, University of Denver, March 2017
- Member, Search Committee, Director of Academic Assessment, University of Denver, Summer 2016
- Faculty Senate Liaison, Department of Philosophy, University of Denver, Fall 2015 – Spring 2016
- Departmental Representative, Pioneer Days, University of Denver, Fall 2015 – Spring 2016
- Invited Speaker, “The Book That Changed My Life”, Carthage College Philosophy Club, April 2013
- Invited Speaker, FLAME Leadership Workshop on Ethics in Leadership, Carthage College, April 2013

## Additional Information

- Member, American Philosophical Association
- Member, Canadian Philosophical Association
- Member, Society for Philosophy of Agency
- Core Faculty Fellow, Brooklyn Institute for Social Research

## References

Akeel Bilgrami, Columbia University, ab41@columbia.edu

Taylor Carman, Columbia University, tcarman@barnard.edu

Carol Rovane, Columbia University, cr260@columbia.edu

John Heil, Washington University in St. Louis, jh@wustl.edu

Andrei Buckareff, Marist College, andrei.buckareff@marist.edu

*Last Updated:*  
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