

**Curriculum Vitae**  
**Tara Smith**  
**January 2024**

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Austin TX 78757  
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Department of Philosophy  
University of Texas at Austin  
2210 Speedway, Stop C3500  
Austin, TX 78712  
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**Areas of Specialization**

Moral Philosophy, Legal Philosophy, Political Philosophy

**Education**

Ph.D. and MA, Philosophy, The Johns Hopkins University, 1989, 1985  
Dissertation: "The Inflation of Rights" (Advisors: Susan Wolf, Richard Flathman)  
B.A., Philosophy and Government, University of Virginia, 1983 *magna cum laude*, Phi Beta Kappa  
London School of Economics and Political Science, Spring 1982

**Professional Appointments**

Fall 2005-present, Professor, University of Texas at Austin  
Fall 1996-2005, Associate Professor, University of Texas at Austin  
Fall 1989-1996, Assistant Professor, University of Texas at Austin  
Spring 1989, St. Mary's College of Maryland, Visiting Instructor  
Summer 1987-Spring 1988, Towson State University, Lecturer  
1985-1988, The Johns Hopkins University, Teaching Assistant

**Publications**

**Books:**

Forthcoming

*Egoism Without Permission – The Moral Psychology of Ayn Rand's Ethics*, 2024, University of Pittsburgh Press

*The First Amendment – Essays on the Imperative of Intellectual Freedom* (title tentative), 2024, ARI Press

Published:

*Judicial Review in an Objective Legal System*, Cambridge University Press, 2015.

*Ayn Rand's Normative Ethics – The Virtuous Egoist*, Cambridge University Press, 2006.  
Chinese edition, 2010; second Chinese translation, July 2015.

*Viable Values: A Study of Life as the Root and Reward of Morality*, Rowman & Littlefield, 2000.

*Moral Rights and Political Freedom*, Rowman & Littlefield, 1995, 224 pages. Japanese edition, 1997.

**Articles & Essays:** (omits Book Reviews and op-eds)Forthcoming:

"Freedom of the Press in an Era of Misinformation – Cognitive Problems, Legal Solutions,"  
*Social Theory and Practice*, December 2024

Published:

"Just Sayin' – How the False Equivalence of Speech and Action Undermines Freedom of Speech,"  
*Drexel Law Review* 11, 2019, pp. 467-537

"On a Pedestal – Sport as an Arena for Admiration," *Sport, Ethics & Philosophy - Journal of the British Philosophy of Sport Association*, DOI: [10.1080/17511321.2018.1493527](https://doi.org/10.1080/17511321.2018.1493527), August 2018

"What is the Law? A Response to Sandefur," *Reason Papers* 39, no. 2, Winter 2017, pp. 37-47.

"A Conceivable Constitution – How the Rational Basis Test Throws Darts and Misses the Mark,"  
*South Texas Law Review* 59, 1, Fall 2017

"The Free Speech Vernacular – Conceptual Confusions in the Way We Speak About Speech," *Texas Review of Law and Politics* 22, No. 1, 2017, pp. 57-92.

"What Good is Religious Freedom? Locke, Rand, and the Non-Religious Case for Respecting It,"  
*Arkansas Law Review* vol. 69: 4, April 2017, pp. 943-986.

"Religious Liberty or Religious License? Legal Schizophrenia and the Case Against Exemptions,"  
*Virginia Journal of Law and Politics*, vol. 32, Fall 2016, pp. 43-93.

"Something to Behold: On the Spiritual Value of Art and Sport," *Fair Play – Journal of Philosophy, Ethics and Sports Law* (online journal), vol. 8, 2016, pp. 10-38.

"Objective Law," *A Companion to Ayn Rand*, eds. A. Gotthelf and G. Salmieri, Wiley-Blackwell, 2016, pp. 209-221.

"What Are We Cheering? Sport and the Value of Valuing" *Fair Play – Journal of Philosophy, Ethics and Sports Law* (online journal) Vol. 2, no. 2, October 2014, pp. 22-51

"Originalism, Vintage or Nouveau: *He Said, She Said Law*," *Fordham Law Review* 82, 2013, pp. 619-639.

"Neutrality Isn't Neutral: On the Value-Neutrality of the Rule of Law," *Washington University Jurisprudence Review*, Vol. 4, No. 1, p. 49, 2011, pp. 49-95.

"Reckless Caution: The Perils of Judicial Minimalism," *NYU Journal of Law and Liberty* 5, no. 2, 2010, pp. 347-393.

"Egoistic Relations with Others: Response to Cullyer;" "On Altruism, and on the Role of Virtues in Rand's Egoism: Response to Swanton;" and "The Primacy of Action in Virtue: Response to Hunt," *Ayn Rand Society Philosophical Studies*, ed. Allan Gotthelf, University of Pittsburgh Press, 2011, pp. 126-130; 143-148; 158-163.

- "Originalism's Misplaced Fidelity: 'Original' Meaning is Not Objective," *Constitutional Commentary* 26, no. 1 (2009), pp. 1-57.
- "Humanity's Darkest Evil: The Lethal Destructiveness of Non-Objective Law," *Essays on Ayn Rand's Atlas Shrugged*, ed. Robert Mayhew, New York: Lexington Books, 2009, pp. 335-361.
- "No Tributes to Caesar: Good or Evil in *Atlas Shrugged*," *Essays on Ayn Rand's Atlas Shrugged*, ed. Robert Mayhew, New York: Lexington Books, 2009, pp. 275-298.
- "The Menace of Pragmatism," *The Objective Standard* 3, no. 3, Fall 2008, pp. 71-93.
- "The Importance of the Subject in Objective Morality: Distinguishing Objective from Intrinsic Value," *Social Philosophy and Policy* 25, no. 1, 2008, pp. 126-148. (also in *Objectivism, Subjectivism, and Relativism in Ethics*, eds. Ellen Frankel Paul, Fred D. Miller, Jr., Jeff Paul, New York: Cambridge University Press, 2008, pp. 126-148.)
- "Why Originalism Won't Die – Common Mistakes in Competing Theories of Judicial Interpretation," *Duke Journal of Constitutional Law and Public Policy* 2, 2007, pp. 159-215.
- "On the Necessity of Egoism," excerpt from my *Viable Values*, in *Introducing Philosophy*, ed. Robert C. Solomon, New York: Oxford University Press, 2008.
- "Unborrowed Vision: Independence and Egoism in *The Fountainhead*," *Essays on Ayn Rand's The Fountainhead*, ed. Robert Mayhew, New York: Lexington Books, 2007.
- "Egoistic Friendship," *American Philosophical Quarterly* 42 (October 2005), pp. 263-277.
- "Leonard Peikoff," *Directory of Modern American Philosophers*, ed. John Shook, Bristol, UK: Thoemmes Press, Spring 2005.
- "'Social' Objectivity and the Objectivity of Value," *Science, Values, and Objectivity*, eds. Peter Machamer and Gereon Walters, Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press, 2004, pp. 143-171.
- "Morality Without the Wink: A Defense of Moral Perfection," *Journal of Philosophical Research* 29 (2004) pp. 315-331.
- "Forbidding Life to Those Still Living," *Essays on Ayn Rand's We the Living*, ed. Robert Mayhew, New York: Lexington Books, 2004, pp. 317-334.
- Excerpt from *Viable Values* in *Philosophy: Paradox and Discovery*, ed. Thomas A. Shipka and Arthur J. Minton, 5<sup>th</sup> edition, New York: McGraw Hill, 2004, pp. 269-280.
- Excerpt from *Moral Rights and Political Freedom* in *Twenty Questions: An Introduction to Philosophy*, eds. G. Lee Bowie, Meredith W. Michaels, Robert C. Solomon, 5<sup>th</sup> edition, New York: Wadsworth, 2004, pp. 562-563.

- "The Metaphysical Case for Honesty," *Journal of Value Inquiry* 37, no. 4 (2003), pp. 517-531.
- "Money Can Buy Happiness," *Reason Papers* 26 (Summer 2003), pp. 7-19.
- "Justice as a Personal Virtue," *Social Theory and Practice* 25, no. 3 (Fall 1999), pp. 361-384.
- "Intrinsic Value: Look-Say Ethics," *Journal of Value Inquiry* 32, no. 4 (December 1998), pp. 539-553.
- "Rights, Wrongs, and Aristotelian Egoism: Illuminating the Rights/Care Dichotomy," *Journal of Social Philosophy* 29, no. 2 (Fall 1998), pp. 5-14.
- "The Practice of Pride," *Social Philosophy and Policy* 15, no. 1 (January 1998), pp. 71-90. (reprinted in *Personal Virtues*, ed. Clifford Williams, New York, Palgrave MacMillan, 2005.)
- "Tolerance and Forgiveness: Virtues or Vices?" *Journal of Applied Philosophy* 14, no. 1 (1997), pp. 31-41.
- "Reconsidering Zero-Sum Value: It's How You Play the Game," *Journal of Social Philosophy* 28, no. 2 (Fall 1997), pp. 128-139.
- "Rights Conflicts: The Undoing of Rights," *Journal of Social Philosophy* 26, 2 (Fall 1995), pp. 141-158.
- "Rights, Friends, and Egoism," *Journal of Philosophy* XC, 3 (March 1993), pp. 144-148.
- "On Deriving Rights to Goods from Rights to Freedom," *Law & Philosophy* 11 (Winter 1992), pp. 217-234.
- "Why a Teleological Defense of Rights Needn't Yield Welfare Rights," *Journal of Social Philosophy* XXIII, 3 (Winter 1992), pp. 35-50.
- "Why do I Love Thee? A Response to Nozick's Account of Romantic Love," *Southwest Philosophy Review* 7, 1 (January 1991), pp. 47-57.
- "Moral Realism: Blackburn's Response to the Frege Objection," *The Southern Journal of Philosophy* XXV, 2 (Summer 1987), pp. 221-228.

#### **Recent Papers, Lectures, Panels, Presentations: (2011-present)**

(Omits Radio, Podcast, Web Interviews on Research Topics and Public Issues)

#### **2024: (upcoming)**

"Egoism Without Permission – It Begins with Desire," OCON, Anaheim, June

"Skin Deep – How We Think Today" (tentative title), ARCON, Austin, March

#### **2023:**

"Freedom of the Press in an Era of Misinformation – Cognitive Problems, Legal Solutions,"  
University of Houston, October

Panelist on “Personal Relationships” and on “Egoism and Independence,” Symposium on *The Fountainhead*, Salem Center University of Texas, September

“Justice as a Personal Virtue,” ARUK Discussion Club, London, July

Living Objectively: Integrating Objectivity into Your Every Day,” OCON, Miami, July

“Faith and Reason – Their Methods, Their Consequences, Their Relationship,” ARCON, Athens, April

“What Does it Mean to be Selfish? – Ayn Rand’s Vision of Rational Egoism,” ARCON, Athens, April

Panelist – Open Q&A on Objectivism, ARCON, Athens, April

“Freedom of the Press in an Era of Misinformation – Cognitive Problems, Legal Solutions,” University of St. Louis Law School, March

Panelist, Author Meets Critics session on Christian Miller, *Honesty – The Philosophy and Psychology of a Neglected Virtue*, APA Eastern Division, Montreal, January

#### **2022:**

“Freedom of the Press in an Era of Misinformation – Cognitive Problems, Legal Solutions,” Salem Center University of Texas, October

“Self-Esteem as a Passageway to Flourishing,” Conference on The Good Life, Kristiansand, Norway, June

“Press Freedom and Misinformation – Is Digital Different?” Oslo Objectivist Society, Oslo, June

Comment on Todd Mai, “Negotiating the Work Flourishing Gap,” Conference on Work & Well-Being, Austin, April

“Free Speech, Free Minds, Free Markets,” University of Illinois Law School, April

“Passing Judgment – The Need for Justice in Everyday Life,” University of Houston, March

“Can Courts Get the Law Right? Judicial Review’s Problem with Objectivity,” Baylor University Law School, January, virtual

#### **2021:**

“The First Amendment – What it Means and Why it Matters,” Seton Hall University, October, virtual

“Your Best Self – The Catalyst of Integrity” – OCON Conference, Austin, August

Panelist on 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Leonard Peikoff, *Objectivism: The Philosophy of Ayn Rand*, OCON Conference, Austin, August

“What it Means to Be Selfish – & Why You Should Be” – University of Houston, March, virtual

“The Role of the Intellectual” – Panel, ARCON Global Conference, March, virtual

Panel, “Ayn Rand’s Ideas, Today’s Issues,” Adam Smith Institute, London, February, virtual

**2020:**

“Reason, Faith, and the Road to Alternative Facts,” ARCON, November, virtual

“The First Amendment – What It Means and Why it Matters,” Texas A&M Commerce,  
October, virtual

Salem Center, University of Texas Business School, October, virtual

Seminar on Objectivist Ethics (in five sessions), CEVRO Institute (Prague), June, virtual

“Selfishness Starts Here: Self-Esteem as the Gateway to Successful Egoism,” OCON, May, virtual

“Choosing Flavors – Purpose in a Selfish Life,” Houston Objectivist Society, March, virtual

“Just Sayin’ – How the False Equivalence of Speech and Action Undermines Freedom of Speech,”  
Webinar for Pacific Legal Institute, January, virtual

**2019:**

“What Does it Mean to be Selfish? Probing the Reason in Rational Egoism,” ARCON Conference,  
Atlanta, October

Panel on Values of Reason, Purpose, and Self-Esteem, ARCON Conference, Atlanta, October

“Passing Judgment: Ayn Rand’s Account of Justice in Everyday Life,”  
Brooklyn College Ideas Group, New York, September  
Institute for American Studies, Jagiellonian University, Krakow, May

“Self-Esteem: Maybe It *Is* all About Me,”  
Austin Objectivist Group, Austin, September  
Houston Objectivist Society, Houston, March

“Free Speech, Free Minds, Free Markets,” OCON, Cleveland, June

“Morality, Productiveness, Money”  
ELTE University, Budapest, May  
CEVRO Institute, Prague, May

“Political Emotions,” Led Seminar, Institute of Philosophy, Jagiellonian University, Krakow, May

“On a Pedestal – Sport as an Arena for Admiration,” International Association for the Philosophy of  
Sport, American Philosophical Association, Pacific Division, Vancouver, April

“Ayn Rand’s Image of the Virtuous Egoist,” Lone Star College, April

“What Does It Mean to Be Selfish?” University of Houston, April

“Religious Exemptions in Law: Liberty or License?” Pace University Law School, March

Panelist, Campus Codes & Chilling Effects, Symposium on Free Speech, University of Texas Law School, January

**2018:**

“Tribalism in Law,” ARCON Conference, Atlanta, November

Panel on Tribalism in Identity Politics, ARCON Conference, Atlanta, November

Panel on Tribalism in Family Relationships, ARCON Conference, Atlanta, November

“Just Sayin' – How the False Equivalence of Speech and Action Undermines Freedom of Speech,”  
Cornell Law School, November  
Georgia State Law School, November  
Columbia University Law School Legal Theory Workshop, March

“The Free Speech Vernacular – Conceptual Confusions in the Way We Speak About Speech,”  
York Union at York University, UK, October  
University of Texas Law School, March

“What It Means to be Selfish – and Why We Should Be,” St. John’s College, Cambridge,  
Apotheosis Society, October

Panel on “Free Speech, Free Minds, Free Markets,” Mont Pelerin Society, Gran Canaria, October

“On a Pedestal – Sport as an Arena for Admiration, OCON, Newport Beach CA, July

“Free Speech, Free Minds, Free Markets,” Jagiellonian University, Krakow, Institute for Philosophy;  
Institute for American Studies, May  
Leadership Program of the Rockies, Denver, April

“Must We Protect Hate Speech?” Debate, St. Edwards University, April

“Religious Exemptions – Liberty or License?”  
University of Cincinnati Law School, April  
Marymount College, Manhattan, March

“What Does It Mean to Be Selfish?”  
John Galt School, Podgorica, Montenegro, May  
University of Houston, March

“Objectivists Aren't Hippies – With Hints at Why Trump Isn't Selfish and Anarchists Aren't Free,”  
Institute of Economic Affairs, London May  
Houston Objectivism School, March

**2017:**

“Authority and the Individual,” Panel at ACROCON (conference), Thessalonika, November

“Ayn Rand’s Egoism,” Hertford College, Oxford University (students of Professor Peter Millican)  
November

“Liberty Rights versus Welfare Rights,”  
Belfast, ESFL Conference (European Students for Liberty), November  
Athens, November

“The Free Speech Vernacular – Conceptual Confusions in the Way We Speak About Speech,”  
University of Chicago Law School, October 2017  
Conference on Free Speech and the Enlightenment, Jagellonian University, Krakow, May

“Objectivists Aren't Hippies – With Hints at Why Trump Isn't Selfish and Anarchists Aren't Free,”  
UT Objectivism Society, September

Panelist, Objectivity in Intelligence Analysis, Symposium held by the Under-Secretary of Defense for  
Intelligence, Alexandria, VA, August

“The Virtuous Egoist,” University of Warsaw, May

“The Pursuit of Happiness – and Tools for Attaining It,” Jagiellonian University, Krakow, May

“Penetrating the Free Speech Jargon: How “Absolutes” and “Exceptions,” “Censorship” and  
“Freedom” Confuse the Debate,” Houston Objectivist Society, April

“Justice, Productiveness, and Money: The Egoistic Capitalism of Ayn Rand’s *Atlas Shrugged*,”  
University of Houston, April

Panel on Free Speech and Censorship, UT Philosophy Graduate Student Conference, April

“Can Courts Get the Law Right? Judicial Review’s Problem with Objectivity” Marymount College,  
New York, March

“Religious Exemptions – Liberty or License?” Arizona State Law School, February

*Author Meets Critics* Panel on my book, *Judicial Review in an Objective Legal System*, Ayn Rand  
Society of the American Philosophical Association, Baltimore, January

**2016:**

“Religious Exemptions – Liberty or License?”  
Tulane Law School, November  
Loyola Law School New Orleans, November

Panel on my book *Judicial Review in an Objective Legal System*, Georgetown Law School,  
November

Seminar on my book *Judicial Review in an Objective Legal System*, Georgetown Law School,  
seminar of Professor Randy Barnett, November

Religious Exemptions, University of New Orleans, class of Professor Chris Suprenant, November

Panel on Religious Liberty, Mont Pelerin Society, Miami, September

“Objectivity in Judicial Review,” Texas State Bar Association Civil Appellate Group, September

“Individual Rights” and “The Egoistic Capitalism of Ayn Rand’s Objectivism: Morality, Productiveness, and Money” – Summer School of Economics, Entrepreneurs Association of Slovakia and Hayek Foundation, Rastocno, Slovakia, August

“The Pursuit of Happiness – and Tools for Attaining It,” Institute for Economic Affairs, London, July

“Liberty Rights Versus Welfare Rights,” Buckingham University, England, July

“The Role of the Rule of Law in a Free Society,” Panel Presentation, Conference on Foundations of a Free Society, Clemson University, May

“Judicial Review – What Does Morality Have to Do With It?” University of Houston, April  
Panel on my book *Judicial Review in an Objective Legal System* and James Fleming’s *Fidelity to Our Imperfect Constitution*

“Justice, Productiveness, and Money: The Egoistic Capitalism of Ayn Rand’s *Atlas Shrugged*,” University of Houston, April

“Objectivity in Judicial Review,” University of San Diego Law School, Center for Constitutional Originalism, March

“Can Courts Get the Law Right? Judicial Review’s Problem with Objectivity”  
University of Chicago Law School, April  
Chicago-Kent Law School, April  
Whittier Law School, March  
Duke University Law School, February  
University of North Carolina Law School, February  
Chapman University Law School, January

“Being Selfish, Being Happy” (set of two lectures) OCON, Seattle, July

“Objectivity in Judicial Review”  
Houston Bar Association, May  
Inn of Court, Raleigh, NC, February  
Ayn Rand Institute, Irvine CA, January

“Can Courts Get the Law Right? Judicial Review’s Problem with Objectivity,” Federalist Society Lawyers Chapter, Austin, March

Discussant, Symposium on the Rational Basis Test, Georgetown University, February

**2015:**

Scholars Luncheon on my book *Judicial Review in an Objective Legal System*, Cato Institute, Washington, December

Federalist Society Teleforum on my book *Judicial Review in an Objective Legal System*, Commentator Gary Lawson (Law, Boston University), October

Discussant Liberty Fund colloquium on “Law, Liberty, and the State,” Portland, Maine, October

“Constitutionalism – The Backbone of Objective Law,” OCON, Charlotte, July

“Objectivity in the Law,” OCON, Charlotte, July

Panels on Racism; Freedom of Speech, OCON, Charlotte, July

“Moral and Political Tenets of Objectivism,” Sarajevo School of Science and Technology, May

“Justice, Productiveness, and Money: The Egoistic Capitalism of Ayn Rand’s *Atlas Shrugged*” MULTI, Sarajevo, Bosnia, May

“The Virtuous Egoist,” European Students for Liberty & Ohrid Institute, Skopje, Macedonia, May

“Justice, Productiveness, and Money: The Egoistic Capitalism of Ayn Rand’s *Atlas Shrugged*,” Faculty of Political Science of University of Belgrade and Libek, Belgrade, Serbia, May

“The Virtuous Egoist,”  
University of Ljubljana and Svetilnik, May  
Bitola University, Bitola, Macedonia, May

“The Rule of Law,” Panel at University of Houston, April

“Constitutionalism – The Backbone of Objective Law,”  
University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Law School, April  
Harvard University Law School, March

“The Pursuit of Happiness – and Tools for Attaining It” University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, April

**2014:**

“Classical Rights vs. Welfare Rights,” Civitas (a think tank), Oslo, November

“To Each His Own – How the Universal Serves the Singular,” House of Literature, Oslo, November (invited lecture in its series on “Universalism,” celebrating bicentennial of Norwegian Constitution)

“The Rule of Law: Why It’s Vital and Why It’s Dying,” Norwegian Association for Legal Philosophy, University of Oslo, November

“Justice, Productiveness, and Money: The Egoistic Capitalism of Ayn Rand’s *Atlas Shrugged*”  
University of Iceland, Reykjavik, November

“The Moral Authority Beneath the Law,” George Mason University Law Faculty Workshop,  
October

“The Virtuous Egoist,” Mississippi State University, October

“Something to Behold: On the Spiritual Value of Art and Sport,” International Association for the  
Philosophy of Sport, Natal, Brazil, September

Discussant Liberty Fund colloquium on “Interpreting Liberty: Constitutional Interpretation versus  
Social Contract Reasoning,” Indianapolis, August

“What Are We Cheering? Sport and the Value of Valuing,” OCON, Las Vegas, July

“What They Don’t Teach You in Law School – On the Practical Value of Legal Ideals,” Austin Lawyers  
Chapter of Federalist Society, June 2014

“The Virtuous Egoist – The Happy Man,” Timbro (think tank), Stockholm, May

“Constitutionalism – The Backbone of Objective Law,” Foreningen for Studium av Objektivismen,  
Oslo, May

“On Rational Egoism and *Atlas Shrugged*,” University of Houston, April

“Originalism’s Self-Defeating Subjectivism: *He Said, She Said Law*,” University of North Carolina Law  
School, March

“Free Speech – Let’s Talk About It,” Liberal Arts & Sciences Academy (Austin public high school), March

“What They Don’t Teach You in Law School – On the Practical Value of Legal Ideals”  
University of Baltimore Law School, March  
Charlotte School of Law, March  
University of Chicago Law School, February

“The Pursuit of Happiness – and Tools for Attaining It,” Loyola University, Chicago, February

**2013:**

“What Are We Cheering? Sport and the Value of Valuing,” Hungry Minds Dinner Series, Denver,  
October

“The Rule of Law – What’s the Role of Congress?” Briefing for Congressional Staffers, September

“The Politics of Pretend – and Its Impact on the Legal System,” OCON, Chicago, July

“The Pursuit of Happiness – And Tools for Attaining It”  
Ayn Rand Center Israel, Tel Aviv, June

Renaissance Academy of the Florida Gulf Coast University, February  
Lutgert School of Business, Florida Gulf Coast University, Distinguished Lecture Series,  
February

"The Virtuous Egoist"

Hebrew University, Jerusalem, Ayn Rand Center Israel, June  
Rice University Objectivism Club, March

"On Rational Egoism and *Atlas Shrugged*," University of Houston, March

"Originalism, Vintage or Nouveau: *He Said, She Said Law*," Conference on New Originalism,  
Fordham Law School, March

"What They Don't Teach You in Law School – On the Practical Value of Legal Ideals"

Stanford University Law School, April  
George Washington University School of Law, February  
Renaissance Academy of the Florida Gulf Coast University, February

## 2012:

"What They Don't Teach You in Law School – On the Practical Value of Legal Ideals"

University of Toledo Law School, October  
University of Texas Law School, October

"What Are We Cheering? Sport and the Value of Valuing"

International Association for the Philosophy of Sport Conference, Porto, Portugal,  
September

"*And I Mean It – Taking Ideas Seriously*" and "*A Culture's Sense of Life*," OCON Conference,  
San Diego, July

Discussant Liberty Fund Colloquium on "The Contest for Liberty in the Ratification Debate,"  
Santa Fe, May

"The Pursuit of Happiness – And Tools for Attaining It," ARI Lecture Series, Chicago, April

"Reckless Caution: The Perils of Judicial Minimalism" University of Chicago Law School Federalist  
Society, April 2012, Commentator Geoffrey Stone

"On Money, Greed, Productiveness," Rockford College, April

"On the Rule of Law," Rhodes College, March

## 2011:

"What Are We Cheering? Sport and the Value of Valuing"

American Association for the Philosophic Study of Society, American Philosophical  
Association, December  
Workshop on Philosophy of Sport, Oxford University Uehirio Center for Practical Ethics, May

“Reckless Caution: The Perils of Judicial Minimalism,” Lewis and Clark Law School, November

“Neutrality Isn’t Neutral: On the Value-Neutrality of the Rule of Law”

Harvard Law School, November

Washington University School of Law Jurisprudence Colloquium, April

“To Imagine a Heaven – And How Sense of Life Can Help You to Claim It,” (3 lectures)

OCON, Fort Lauderdale, July

“The Pursuit of Happiness – And Tools for Attaining It,” Adam Smith Institute, London, May

“The Menace of Pragmatism,” Ayn Rand Institute, Chicago, March

“Can Selfishness Be Moral?” College of Charleston, February

"The Virtuous Egoist," Bastiat Society, Charleston, SC, February

Webinar teleconference on “The Menace of Pragmatism,” Florida Gulf Coast University,  
Renaissance Academy, January

**Other Recent Professional Activities:**

International Editorial Committee, *Journal of Liberty and International Affairs*

Board of Directors, Ayn Rand Institute, 2010-present

Steering Committee, Ayn Rand Society, 2021-present, and periodically since 1996

Academic Advisory Council, Clemson University Institute for the Study of Capitalism

Referee for Cambridge University Press, Oxford University Press, Routledge, University of Michigan Press, Rowman & Littlefield, Broadview Press

Referee for Journals: *Journal of Philosophy, Analysis, American Philosophical Quarterly, American Political Thought, Ethics, Social Theory and Practice, Journal of Ethics, Journal of Moral Philosophy, Philosophy, Canadian Journal of Philosophy, Journal of Business Ethics, Science & Law, Inquiry, Social Philosophy Today, Res Publica, Teaching Philosophy, Diametros, Polish Political Science Yearbook, Contemporary Philosophy, American Business Law Journal, American Psychologist, Science and Education, Political Science Exchange*

Referee for Research Grants: Fulbright Fellowship, Killam Fellowship Canada Council for the Arts, Princeton University, Institute for International & Regional Studies; University of Missouri

Referee for Tenure & Promotion Decisions: Harvey Mudd College; Seton Hall University

External Doctoral Dissertation Committee, University of Southern California

External Masters Thesis Committee, UT-San Antonio

Chaired APA session on Territorial Rights at APA Eastern Division, Montreal, January 2023

Member of Faculty Working Group to advise UT President on Free Speech (Fall 2023)

Organized approximately three dozen Academic Workshops of varying sizes, scopes, at different locations, 2002-present (e.g., issues in legal philosophy, moral philosophy, ethics of war, participants' work-in-progress)

Organized Conference on The Place of Precedent in Objective Law, Oct. 2009

Co-sponsor, Workshop on Perception, Consciousness and Reference, University of Warwick, September 2009

Organized Conference on Objectivity in the Law, April 2008

Co-organized Conference on Concepts and Objectivity, University of Pittsburgh, September 2006

Organized Symposium on *Atlas Shrugged*, March 2009

#### **At University of Texas, primarily for students**

Organized Free Speech Essay Contest for UT Undergraduates, Fall 2011 and 2014-2022

Organized Dialogues on Free Speech Series (2011-2016): twice-yearly panel discussions on particular Free Speech controversies (e.g., Academic Speech, Inflammatory Speech, Campaign Finance Restrictions)

Sponsor or co-sponsor numerous panels and speakers primarily on issues related to the First Amendment (Ongoing)

Plan II Honors Program Advisory Board (Fall 2016-2021)

Co-organized First Amendment Scholars Program (2019-2020)

Organized Essay Contest for UT Undergraduates on *Atlas Shrugged*, 2009-2011

#### **Select Academic Grants**

BB&T Chair for the Study of Objectivism, 2008-2018; annual award: \$200,000

Anthem Fellowship for the Study of Objectivism, Spring 2001-present (varying amounts)

#### **Member:**

American Philosophical Association, Ayn Rand Society, Law and Society Association, International Association for Philosophy of Law and Social Philosophy, International Association for Philosophy of Sport, Mont Pelerin Society