

PATRICK FORBER

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EDUCATION

Stanford University

2006 Ph.D., Philosophy

Thesis: "The Traces of Change: Evidence in Evolutionary Biology"

2005 M.S., Biological Sciences

University of California, San Diego

2000 B.A., Philosophy, B.S., General Biology

Magna Cum Laude, Honors with Distinction in Philosophy

Caledonian Honor Society of John Muir College

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2012 Associate Professor of Philosophy (with tenure), Tufts University

2006 Assistant Professor of Philosophy, Tufts University

VISITING APPOINTMENTS

2016 Research Fellow, The Australian National University, RISSS

2013 Research Fellow, Centre for the Foundations of Science, Sydney University

2007 Researcher, Logic and Philosophy of Science, University of California, Irvine

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Philosophy of Biology, Philosophy of Science, Evolutionary Game Theory

AREAS OF COMPETENCE

Evolutionary Biology, History of Biology, British Empiricism, Nietzsche

ACADEMIC AWARDS

2015 Mellon New Directions Fellowship

2009 Faculty Research Awards Committee Grant, Tufts University

2005 Mellon Dissertation Fellowship, Stanford University

2000 Eric Paul Allison Memorial Prize for Outstanding Merit in Philosophy, University of California, San Diego

PUBLICATIONS

- 2016 “Philosophy of Evolutionary Theory” book chapter for *The Theory of Evolution* (eds. Samuel M. Scheiner and David P. Mindell). In press.
- “The Coevolution of Recognition and Social Behavior,” with Rory Smead, *Scientific Reports* 6:25813.
- “The Evolution of Spite, Recognition, and Morality,” with Rory Smead, *Philosophy of Science* 83:884-896.
- “Of silence and denial: Sober on Ockham’s razors,” *Metascience* 25:371-374.
- 2015 “Evolution and the Classification of Social Behavior,” with Rory Smead, *Biology and Philosophy* 30:405-421.
- 2014 “An Evolutionary Paradox for Prosocial Behavior,” with Rory Smead, *The Journal of Philosophy* CXI:151-166.
- “The Evolution of Fairness Through Spite,” with Rory Smead, *The Proceedings of the Royal Society B, Biological Sciences* 281:20132439.
- “A Bargaining Game Analysis of International Climate Negotiations,” with Rory Smead, Ron Sandler, and John Basl, *Nature Climate Change* 4:442-445.
- 2013 “Biological Inheritance and Cultural Evolution in Nietzsche’s Genealogy,” *Journal of Nietzsche Studies* 44:329-341.
- “The Evolutionary Dynamics of Spite in Finite Populations,” with Rory Smead, *Evolution* 67:698-707.
- “The Perils of Tweaking,” with Brian Epstein, *Synthese* 190:203-218.
- “Debating the Power and Scope of Adaptation,” *The Philosophy of Biology: A Companion for Educators* (Springer).
- 2012 “Modeling Scientific Evidence: The Challenge of Specifying Likelihoods,” *EPSA Philosophy of Science: Amsterdam 2009* (Springer).
- “Conjecture and Explanation: A Reply To Reydon,” *Studies in the History and Philosophy of Biological and Biomedical Sciences* 43:298-301.
- 2011 “Historical Reconstruction: Gaining Epistemic Access to the Deep Past,” with Eric Griffith, *Philosophy and Theory in Biology* (online).
- “Reconceiving Eliminative Inference,” *Philosophy of Science* 78:185-208.
- 2010 “Adaptationism,” with Steven Orzack, *The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy* (online).
- “Confirmation and Explaining How Possible,” *Studies in the History and Philosophy of Biological and Biomedical Sciences* 41:32-40.
- 2009 “Introduction: A Primer on Adaptationism,” *Biology and Philosophy* 24:155-159.
- “Spandrels and a Pervasive Problem of Evidence,” *Biology and Philosophy* 24:247-266.
- 2008 “Evolution and the Levels of Selection,” review of Samir Okasha’s *Evolution and the Levels of Selection*, *The Philosophical Review* 177:626-630.

- “Forever Beyond Our Grasp?” Essay review of P. Kyle Stanford’s *Exceeding Our Grasp: Science, History, and The Problem of Unconceived Alternatives*, *Biology and Philosophy* 23:135-141.
- 2007 “Can There Be Stochastic Evolutionary Causes?” With Kenneth Reisman, *Philosophy of Science* 74:616-627.
 “Nietzsche Was No Darwinian,” *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* 75(2):369-382.
- 2005 “On the Explanatory Roles of Natural Selection,” *Biology and Philosophy* 20:329-342.
 “Manipulation and the Causes of Evolution,” (with Kenneth Reisman, *Philosophy of Science* 72(5):1113-1123.
 “Grounding the Big Picture,” essay review of Sandra Mitchell’s *Biological Complexity and Integrative Pluralism*, *Biology and Philosophy* 20:913-923.

IN PREPARATION

Learning to resolve conflict: evolution of strategies on dynamic networks (in collaboration with Network Science at Northeastern University).
 Area review on the evolution of cooperation for *Biology and Philosophy*.
 Book chapter on teleology in contemporary biology for *Oxford Philosophical Concepts* (ed. Jeffrey McDonough).
 Encyclopedia entry on the evolution of morality for Elsevier’s *Reference Module in the Life Sciences*.

PRESENTATIONS

- 2016 “Evolution Through Enmity or Charity?”, UC Irvine LPS Colloquium, Midwest Philosophy Colloquium (UM Morris), The Australian National University Philosophy Program Seminar.
 “Nietzsche’s Evolutionary Conjectures in Retrospect,” UM Morris Philosophy.
 “The Coevolution of Recognition and Social Behavior,” UC Irvine LPS Social Dynamics seminar and the IMBS seminar, PBDB X (organized by the Australian National University).
- 2015 “Human Behavior and Evolutionary Models of Spite,” with Rory Smead, American Psychological Association Annual Convention.
 “How Game-theoretic Models (Should) Track Fitness,” International Society for the History, Philosophy and Social Studies of Biology Conference, Montreal.
 “The Spandrels of St. Mark’s and the Critique of Adaptationism,” ASU-MBL Seminar: Perspectives on Stephen Jay Gould.
- 2014 “Exploring the Complicated Roles of Evolutionary Modeling in Paleobiological Research,” Boston University Center for Philosophy and History of Science.
 “The Evolution of Spite, Recognition, and Morality,” with Rory Smead, Philosophy of Science Association Biennial Meeting, Chicago.

- “A Spiteful Wrench in the Works: How Spite Affects the Evolution of Social Behavior,” Carnegie Mellon University, Department of Philosophy and Connecticut College, Department of Philosophy.
- “Rethinking the Mutualistic Approach to Cooperation,” Philosophy of Biology at Madison.
- 2013 “The Evolution of Fairness Through Spite.” Evolution Meeting at Snowbird and University of Sydney-Australian National University Philosophy of Biology Workshop.
- “Causation in Evolution: Drawing the Map and Calibrating the Compass,” The Australian National University PBDB7 Conference, Dolphin Beach.
- “How Problematic are Unconceived Alternatives for Evidential Reasoning?” Conference on Unconceived Alternatives and Scientific Realism, Durham University.
- “Patterns of Evidential Reasoning and the Signatures of Selection,” University of Sydney, History and Philosophy of Science colloquium.
- “The Evolution of Antisocial Behavior,” Arizona State University, School of Life Sciences colloquium and International Society for the History, Philosophy and Social Studies of Biology Conference, Montpelier.
- 2012 “The Evolution of Spite,” with Rory Smead, Pacific American Philosophical Association Meeting, Seattle.
- 2011 “The Evolution of Spite with Applications to Human Behavior,” with Rory Smead, Harvard University, Evolution and Development of Human Behavior.
- “An Analysis of Inheritance.” International Society for the History, Philosophy and Social Studies of Biology Conference, Salt Lake City
- “The Perils of Tweaking,” with Brian Epstein, MIDAS Conference on Epistemology of Modeling and Simulation, University of Pittsburgh.
- 2010 “Historical Reconstruction and Consilience,” Complexity and History Conference, University of Western Ontario.
- “The Perils of Tweaking,” with Brian Epstein, Simulations and Modeling Conference, University of Toronto.
- “The Importance of Explaining How Possible and the Reference Class Problem,” Workshop on Explanation in the Special Sciences, University of Cologne.
- 2009 “Evidence and Objectivity,” University of Pennsylvania, Philosophy.
- “Confirmation and the Signatures of Selection,” Philosophy of Biology at Madison, Duke University, Philosophy colloquium, and IHPST Paris colloquium.
- “Modeling Scientific Inference: The Challenge of Specifying Likelihoods,” European Philosophy of Science Association Meeting, Amsterdam.
- “The Hard Problem for Philosophy of Historical Science,” The Australian National University PBDB 3 Conference, Kioloa.
- “Detecting the Signatures of Selection.” International Society for the History, Philosophy, and Social Studies of Biology Conference, Brisbane.

- 2008 “Confirmation and Macroeolution,” Workshop on Macroeolution and Diversity, University of Montreal.
- 2007 “Models of Scientific Inference and a Lesson From the Field,” The Australian National University PBDB2 Conference, Dolphin Beach.
 “What Good Are Optimality Models Anyway?” International Society for the History, Philosophy, and Social Studies of Biology Conference, Exeter and The Australian National University, Tempo and Mode seminar.
 “A New Kind of Eliminative Inference,” University of California, Irvine, Logic and Philosophy of Science colloquium.
 “The Causes of Evolution.” Workshop on the “Toronto Interpretation” of Evolutionary Biology, University of Toronto.
- 2006 “Can There Be Stochastic Evolutionary Causes?,” with Kenneth Reisman, Philosophy of Science Association Biennial Meeting, Vancouver and The Australian National University PBDB1, Dolphin Beach.
 “Confirmation and Macroeolution,” Australasian Association of Philosophy Conference, Canberra.
 “Deciphering the Traces of Evolutionary Change,” The Australian National University, philsoc talk, Tufts University, Biology colloquium, University of Cincinnati, Philosophy colloquium.
- 2005 “The Importance of Genuine Rivals in Evolutionary Biology,” job talk given at California Institute of Technology, Tufts University, University of California Davis, University of Minnesota, University of Utah, Virginia Polytechnic Institute.
 “Confirmation In Theory and In Practice,” The Australian National University, philsoc talk.
 “Adaptive Landscapes and Confounding Ecology,” International Society for the History, Philosophy, and Social Studies of Biology Conference, Guelph.
- 2004 “Manipulation and the Causes of Evolution,” with Kenneth Reisman, Philosophy of Science Association Biennial Meeting, Austin and The Australian National University, philsoc talk.
- 2003 “Bridging the Generation Gap: Inheritance and Evolution,” The Australian National University Philsoc talk.
 “Mechanisms of Heredity and Evolutionary Explanations.” International Society for the History, Philosophy, and Social Studies of Biology Conference, Vienna.

WORKSHOP INVITATIONS

- 2015 ASU-MBL 2015 Seminar: Perspectives on Stephen Jay Gould
- 2012 How Can the History and Philosophy of Science Contribute to Contemporary U.S. Science Teaching? Boston University Center for the Philosophy and History of Science.
 Epistemology Think Tank: New Measures for Models, MIDAS Center, University of Pittsburgh.

- 2011 Debating Darwin: Philosophical Issues in Evolution and Natural Selection, University of California, Santa Barbara.
- 2007 Workshop on Elliott Sober's manuscript, *Evidence and Evolution*, The Center for the Philosophy of Science, University of Pittsburgh.

COURSES TAUGHT

Introductory (undergraduate only): Rational Choice; Science and Pseudoscience; Biology and Humanity; Evidence, Reality, and Scientific Change.

Advanced survey: Philosophy of Biology; Epistemology.

Seminars: On the Origins of Punishment; Evolution of Minds and Morals; The Boundaries of Darwinian Theory (with Dan Dennett); Accessing Prehistory (with George Smith); Logical Positivism; Formal Epistemology; New Perspectives on Causal Inference.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Guest editor for *Biology and Philosophy* 2009 special issue.

Program committee member for the Philosophy of Science Association 2014 Biennial Meeting and the European Philosophy of Science Association 2009 Meeting.

Organized conference sessions for the International Society for the Study of History, Philosophy, and Social Studies of Biology Meetings 2005-2013.

Referee for *Biology and Philosophy*, *Philosophy of Science*, *The British Journal for the Philosophy of Science*, *Mind*, *Erkenntnis*, *Philosophical Studies*, *Studies in the History and Philosophy of Biological and Biomedical Sciences*, *Quarterly Review of Biology*, the National Science Foundation, and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada.

Affiliations: Philosophy of Science Association; European Philosophy of Science Association; American Philosophical Association; International Society for the History, Philosophy, and Social Studies of Biology; Society for the Study of Evolution.

UNIVERSITY AND DEPARTMENT SERVICE

Director of Graduate Studies in Philosophy (2013 to 2017), STS (Science, Technology, and Society) Program Committee, Search Committee responsibilities, M.A. Admissions Committee responsibilities, Freshman advising, Major advising in Philosophy, Environmental Studies and STS program, Honors Thesis advising, M.A. student advising, Library Committee and Liaison (2008 to 2018), GSAS Programs and Policies Committee (2013 to 2017).

MEDIA

Academic minute on WAMC public radio:

<http://academicminute.org/2014/09/patrick-forber-tufts-university-evolution-of-spite/>

New York Times article on the evolution of spite:

http://www.nytimes.com/2014/04/01/science/spite-is-good-spice-works.html?_r=0

ABC Science article on the evolution of spite:

<http://www.abc.net.au/science/articles/2014/02/12/3942941.htm>

REFERENCES

George Smith

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Kim Sterelny

kim.sterelny@anu.edu.au

Peter Godfrey-Smith

pgodfreysmith@gmail.com

Mike Dietrich

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Rory Smead

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More references available upon request