

Michael Szlachta

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AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION AND COMPETENCE

AOS: Medieval Philosophy

AOC: Early Modern Philosophy, Ethics, Free Will & Action Theory

EMPLOYMENT

Visiting Assistant Professor

Department of Philosophy, St. Francis Xavier University

2019-20, 2020-21

Lecturer

Department of Philosophy, University of Toronto

2018-19

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Philosophy, University of Toronto

2012-19

Dissertation: *A Defense of Intellectualism: Will, Intellect, and Control in Late Thirteenth-Century Philosophy*

Committee: Martin Pickavé (supervisor), Deborah Black, Peter King, Phil Clark, Antoine Côté (external)

B.A., Philosophy (specialist) and Mathematics (minor), University of Toronto

2007-11

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed

- “Thomas of Sutton’s Intellectualist Doctrine of the Will’s Self-Motion.” Forthcoming in *Oxford Studies in Medieval Philosophy*.
- “Godfrey of Fontaines on the Moral Imputability of Exterior Acts.” Forthcoming in *History of Philosophy Quarterly*.
- “Why Did You Choose That? Choice and Reasons in Peter John Olivi’s *Summa*.” Forthcoming in *Pierre de Jean Olivi (1248-1298). La construction de la personne humaine : Anthropologie, éthique, société, 4-6 Octobre 2018*, Collectio Oliviana, Grottaferrata: Collegio San Bonaventura.
- “Peter John Olivi, Free Will, and the Threefold *aspectus*.” *Recherches de Théologie et Philosophie médiévales* 85, no. 2 (2018): pp. 285-307.

In Preparation

- “Understanding How the Intellect and the Will Interact: Thomas Aquinas, Godfrey of Fontaines, and the Determination-Exercise Distinction”
- “*Huic fictioni non est respondendum*: Thomas Aquinas and the Necessitation of the Will”
- “Willing *per electionem* in Henry of Ghent’s Voluntarism”

PRESENTATIONS

Refereed

“Specification, Exercise, and the Challenges of Godfrey of Fontaines’s Extreme Intellectualism”

- *The Will and its Acts in Late Medieval Ethics and Theology* June 2021
Medical University of Łódź, Łódź, Poland

“Immateriality as the Root of Freedom”

- *International Medieval Congress 2019* July 2019
University of Leeds, Leeds, UK

“Conditioned Freedom in Thomas Aquinas’s *Disputed Questions on Truth*”

- *Contingency and Necessity in Medieval and Post-medieval Scholasticism* June 2019
Czech Academy of Sciences, Prague, Czech Republic
- *Canadian Society of Christian Philosophers Annual Meeting* June 2018
Université du Québec à Montréal, Montréal, Canada
- *Reuniones Filosóficas: Inteligencia y Voluntad en Tomás de Aquino* April 2018
Universidad de Navarra, Pamplona, Spain

“A Challenge for Later Medieval Voluntarism”

- *American Philosophical Association, Eastern Division Meeting* January 2019
New York, NY, USA
- *Canadian Philosophical Association Annual Congress* June 2018
Université du Québec à Montréal, Montréal, Canada

“Why Did You Choose That?” Some Thoughts on Preference and Motivation in Peter John Olivi’s *Summa*”

- *Pierre de Jean Olivi (1248-1298). La construction de la personne humaine : Anthropologie, éthique, société* October 2018
Rome, Italy

“An Intellectualist Conception of Human Freedom”

- *The XXIV World Congress of Philosophy* August 2018
University of Peking, Beijing, China
- *American Philosophical Association, Pacific Division Meeting* March 2018
San Diego, CA, USA
- *Western Canadian Philosophical Association Annual Meeting* October 2017
University of Regina, Regina, Canada

- “The First Movements of the Will and the Intellect: A Puzzle in Thomas Aquinas’s Moral Psychology”
- *Canadian Philosophical Association Annual Congress* May 2017
Ryerson University, Toronto, Canada
 - *American Philosophical Association, Central Division Meeting* March 2017
Kansas City, MO, USA
- “The Role of Meta-Volition in Peter John Olivi’s Account of Free Will”
- *American Philosophical Association, Eastern Division Meeting* January 2017
Baltimore, MD, USA
- “Godfrey of Fontaines on ‘Perfect Knowledge’ of the End”
- *Canadian Philosophical Association Annual Congress* May 2016
University of Calgary, Calgary, Canada
- “Body on Body Causation in Descartes”
- *American Philosophical Association, Central Division Meeting* March 2016
Chicago, IL, USA
- “Thomas Aquinas and the Power to Do Otherwise”
- *American Philosophical Association, Pacific Division Meeting* April 2015
Vancouver, Canada

Invited

- “Willing *per electionem* in Henry of Ghent’s Voluntarism”
- *Varieties of Voluntarism in Medieval and Early Modern Ethics* July 2021
Würzburg, Germany
- “Thomas Aquinas’s Pluralism about Freedom”
- *Humanities Colloquium (HC) Capstone Lecture* November 2019
St. Francis Xavier University, Antigonish, Canada
- “Human Agency in Thomas Aquinas and Godfrey of Fontaines”
- *uOttawa Summer Conference in Medieval and Early Modern Philosophy* July 2016
University of Ottawa, Ottawa, Canada
 - *Collaborative Program in Ancient and Medieval Philosophy (CPAMP) Work in Progress Series* February 2016
University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada
- “Peter John Olivi, Freedom, and the Will’s *Dominativus Aspectus*”
- *The University of Toronto Colloquium in Medieval Philosophy* September 2015
University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada
- “Finding Unity in Godfrey of Fontaines’s Thoughts on Freedom”
- *Mind, Matter, and Metaphysics: Berlin-Toronto-Groningen Workshop on Medieval and Early Modern Philosophy* May 2015
Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Berlin, Germany

TEACHING

Instructor

St. Francis Xavier University

- PHIL100: Introductory Philosophy 2019-20, 2020-21
- PHIL366: The Empiricists Winter 2021
- PHIL333: Environmental Ethics Winter 2021
- PHIL231: Love and the Emotions Fall 2020
- PHIL251: Critical Thinking Fall 2019, Fall 2020
- PHIL342: Logic Winter 2020
- PHIL362: Philosophy in the High Middle Ages Winter 2020
- PHIL232: Freedom and Responsibility Fall 2019

University of Toronto

- PHL307: Augustine Winter 2019
- PHL210: 17th-and 18th-Century Philosophy 2018-19
- PHL341: Freedom, Responsibility and Human Action Fall 2018
- PHL100: Introduction to Philosophy Summer 2016

Teaching Assistant

University of Toronto

- PHIL206: Later Medieval Philosophy Winter 2015, Winter 2018
- PHL275: Introduction to Ethics Fall 2017
- PHL210: 17th-and 18th-Century Philosophy 2015-2016
- PHL205: Early Medieval Philosophy Fall 2014
- PHL245: Modern Symbolic Logic Winter 2013
- PHL100: Introduction to Philosophy 2010-11, 2013-14

AWARDS

- American Philosophical Association Graduate Student Travel Stipend (×6) 2015-19
- Ontario Graduate Scholarship (\$15,000 ×3) 2014-17
- Dr. Yee Scholarship in Medieval Philosophy (×5) 2012-17

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY

- Research Assistant to Professor Peter King 2016-19
Project: *The History of the Will*
- Research Assistant to Professor Martin Pickavé Summer 2013, 2015-16

LANGUAGES

Latin; German; French

REFERENCES

Professor Martin Pickavé (supervisor)
University of Toronto
Department of Philosophy
170 St. George Street, Room 515
Toronto, ON, Canada, M5R 2M8
martin.pickave@utoronto.ca

Professor Antoine Côté
University of Ottawa
Department of Philosophy
Desmarais Building, Room 8127
55 Laurier Ave. East
Ottawa, ON, Canada, K1N 6N5
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Professor Peter King
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Professor William Sweet
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Professor Deborah Black
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Professor Peter Eardley
University of Guelph
Department of Philosophy
MacKinnon Building, Room 336
87 Trent Ln.
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Professor Franz Huber (teaching advisor)
University of Toronto
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170 St. George Street, Room 425
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franz.huber@utoronto.ca