

Michael Szlachta

St. Francis Xavier University
 Department of Philosophy
 2329 Notre Dame Avenue, 703
 Antigonish, NS, Canada, B2G 2W5

Email: mszlacht@stfx.ca
 Website: <https://michaelszlachta.com/>
 Phone Number: +1 902 867 2119

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION AND COMPETENCE

AOS: Medieval Philosophy

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

EMPLOYMENT

St. Francis Xavier University, Department of Philosophy

2021–present Assistant Professor, Tenure-Track

2019–21 Visiting Assistant Professor

University of Toronto, Department of Philosophy

2018–19 Lecturer

EDUCATION

University of Toronto

2012–19: Ph.D., Philosophy

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)

2007–11: B.A., Philosophy (specialist) and Mathematics (minor)

PUBLICATIONS

Refereed Papers

1. (accepted) Godfrey of Fontaines on the Moral Imputability of Exterior Acts. *History of Philosophy Quarterly*.
2. (2021) Why Did You Choose That? Choice and Reasons in Peter of John Olivi's *Summa*. In S. Bobillier & R. Thornton (eds.), *Peter of John Olivi: Construction of the Human Person - Anthropology, Ethics, and Society. Acts of the Colloquium of Rome (4-6 October 2018)*. Rome: Editiones Collegii S. Bonaventurae ad Claras Aquas, 155-177.
3. (2020) Thomas of Sutton's Intellectualist Doctrine of the Will's Self-Motion. *Oxford Studies in Medieval Philosophy* 8, 187-220.
4. (2018) Peter John Olivi, Free Will, and the Threefold *aspectus*. *Recherches de Théologie et Philosophie médiévales* 85 (2), 285-307.
5. (revise and resubmit) *Huic fictioni non est respondendum*: Thomas Aquinas and the Necessitation of the Will.

6. (submitted) The Blind Will is No King: Henry of Ghent's Voluntarism and the Act of Choice.
7. (submitted) How Do Intellect and Will Interact? Thomas Aquinas, Godfrey of Fontaines, and the Determination-Exercise Distinction.
8. (in prep.) Freedom from the Ground Up: The Intellectualism of Godfrey of Fontaines.

Editions

1. (under contract) ed. with A. Côté and M. Pickavé, *A Companion to Godfrey of Fontaines*. Brill's Companions to the Christian Tradition. Leiden: Brill.
2. (in prep.) ed., *Psychology in the Middle Ages*. Special Issue of *History of Philosophy Quarterly*.

PRESENTATIONS

Refereed

- 06/2021 How do Intellect and Will Interact? Thomas Aquinas, Godfrey of Fontaines, and the Determination-Exercise Distinction, *The Will and its Acts in Late Medieval Ethics and Theology*, Medical University of Łódź, Łódź, Poland
- 06/2021 What's Really Doing the Willing? Godfrey of Fontaines and the Challenges of Extreme Intellectualism, *Canadian Philosophical Association Annual Congress* University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada
- 07/2019 Immateriality as the Root of Freedom, *International Medieval Congress*, University of Leeds, Leeds, UK
- 06/2019 Conditioned Freedom in Thomas Aquinas's *Disputed Questions on Truth, Contingency and Necessity in Medieval and Post-medieval Scholasticism*, Czech Academy of Sciences, Prague, Czech Republic
- 01/2019 A Challenge for Later Medieval Voluntarism, *American Philosophical Association, Eastern Division Meeting*, New York NY, USA
- 10/2018 '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*, Rome, Italy
- 08/2018 An Intellectualist Conception of Human Freedom, *The XXIV World Congress of Philosophy*, University of Peking, Beijing, China
- 06/2018 A Challenge for Later Medieval Voluntarism, *Canadian Philosophical Association Annual Congress*, Université du Québec à Montréal, Montréal, Canada
- 06/2018 Conditioned Freedom in Thomas Aquinas's *Disputed Questions on Truth*, *Canadian Society of Christian Philosophers Annual Meeting*, Université du Québec à Montréal, Montréal, Canada
- 04/2018 Conditioned Freedom in Thomas Aquinas's *Disputed Questions on Truth*, *Reuniones Filosóficas: Inteligencia y Voluntad en Tomás de Aquino*, Universidad de Navarra, Pamplona, Spain
- 03/2018 An Intellectualist Conception of Human Freedom, *American Philosophical Association, Pacific Division Meeting*, San Diego CA, USA
- 10/2017 An Intellectualist Conception of Human Freedom, *Western Canadian Philosophical Association Annual Meeting*, University of Regina, Regina, Canada

- 05/2017 The First Movements of the Will and the Intellect: A Puzzle in Thomas Aquinas's Moral Psychology, *Canadian Philosophical Association Annual Congress*, Ryerson University, Toronto, Canada
- 03/2017 The First Movements of the Will and the Intellect: A Puzzle in Thomas Aquinas's Moral Psychology, *American Philosophical Association, Central Division Meeting* Kansas City MO, USA
- 01/2017 The Role of Meta-Volition in Peter John Olivi's Account of Free Will, *American Philosophical Association, Eastern Division Meeting*, Baltimore MD, USA
- 05/2016 Godfrey of Fontaines on 'Perfect Knowledge' of the End, *Canadian Philosophical Association Annual Congress*, University of Calgary, Calgary, Canada
- 03/2016 Body on Body Causation in Descartes, *American Philosophical Association, Central Division Meeting*, Chicago IL, USA
- 05/2015 Thomas Aquinas and the Power to Do Otherwise, *American Philosophical Association, Pacific Division Meeting*, Vancouver, Canada

Invited

- 05/2022 Freedom from the Ground Up: The Intellectualism of Godfrey of Fontaines, *The Philosophical Thought of Godfrey of Fontaines*, Ottawa, Canada
- 03/2022 Wickedness Itself: Augustine and the Logic of Sin, *Theology on Tap*, St. Francis Xavier University, Antigonish, Canada
- 02/2022 Comment on A. Martin, *American Philosophical Association, Central Division Meeting*, Chicago IL, USA
- 07/2021 Willing *per electionem* in Henry of Ghent's Voluntarism, *Varieties of Voluntarism in Medieval and Early Modern Ethics*, Würzburg, Germany
- 11/2019 Thomas Aquinas's Pluralism about Freedom, *Humanities Colloquium Capstone Lecture*, St. Francis Xavier University, Antigonish, Canada
- 07/2016 Human Agency in Thomas Aquinas and Godfrey of Fontaines, *uOttawa Summer Conference in Medieval and Early Modern Philosophy*, University of Ottawa, Ottawa, Canada
- 02/2016 Human Agency in Thomas Aquinas and Godfrey of Fontaines, *Collaborative Program in Ancient and Medieval Philosophy Work in Progress Series*, University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada
- 09/2015 Peter John Olivi, Freedom, and the Will's *Dominativus Aspectus*, *The UofT Colloquium in Medieval Philosophy*, University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada
- 05/2015 Finding Unity in Godfrey of Fontaines's Thoughts on Freedom, *Mind, Matter, and Metaphysics: Berlin-Toronto-Groningen Workshop on Medieval and Early Modern Philosophy*, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Berlin, Germany

TEACHING

Thesis Supervisor

- Kathryn Gaten (Honours BA Thesis, first reader, StFX, 2022): *Is the Wanton Destruction of the Non-Living Parts of the Environment Morally Wrong?*
- Tane Caubo (Honours BA Thesis, second reader, StFX, 2020): *Thomas Aquinas on the Incorruptibility of the Human Soul*

Course Instructor

- Winter 2023 PHIL366: The Empiricists (StFX)
- Fall 2022 - Winter 2023 PHIL100: Introductory Philosophy (StFX)
- Fall 2022 PHIL231: Love and the Emotions (StFX)
- Winter 2022 PHIL342: Logic (StFX)
- Fall 2021 - Winter 2022 PHIL100: Introductory Philosophy (StFX)
- Fall 2021 PHIL362: Early Medieval Philosophy (StFX)
- Winter 2021 PHIL366: The Empiricists (StFX)
- Winter 2021 PHIL333: Environmental Ethics (StFX)
- Fall 2020 - Winter 2021 PHIL100: Introductory Philosophy (StFX)
- Fall 2020 PHIL231: Love and the Emotions (StFX)
- Fall 2020 PHIL251: Critical Thinking (StFX)
- Winter 2020 PHIL342: Logic (StFX)
- Winter 2020 PHIL362: Philosophy in the High Middle Ages (StFX)
- Fall 2019 - Winter 2020 PHIL100: Introductory Philosophy (StFX)
- Fall 2019 PHIL232: Freedom and Responsibility (StFX)
- Fall 2019 PHIL251: Critical Thinking (StFX)
- Winter 2019 PHIL307: Augustine (Toronto)
- Fall 2018 - Winter 2019 PHIL210: 17th-and 18th-Century Philosophy (Toronto)
- Fall 2018 PHIL341: Freedom, Responsibility and Human Action (Toronto)
- Summer 2016 PHIL100: Introduction to Philosophy (Toronto)

Teaching Assistant

- Winter 2018 PHIL206: Later Medieval Philosophy
- Fall 2017 PHIL275: Introduction to Ethics
- Fall 2015 - Winter 2016 PHIL210: 17th-and 18th-Century Philosophy
- Winter 2015 PHIL206: Later Medieval Philosophy
- Fall 2014 PHIL205: Early Medieval Philosophy
- Fall 2013 - Winter 2014 PHIL100: Introduction to Philosophy
- Winter 2013 PHIL245: Modern Symbolic Logic
- Fall 2010 - Winter 2011 PHIL100: Introduction to Philosophy

AWARDS AND GRANTS

- SSHRC Connection Grant, co-investigator, 2022, \$20,625
- APA Eastern Graduate Student Travel Stipend, 2019, \$300
- APA Pacific Graduate Student Travel Stipend, 2018, \$400
- Dr. Yee Scholarship in Medieval Philosophy, 2017–2018, \$8,480
- APA Central Graduate Student Travel Stipend, 2017, \$300
- APA Eastern Graduate Student Travel Stipend, 2017, \$300
- Ontario Graduate Scholarship, 2016–2017, \$15,000
- Dr. Yee Scholarship in Medieval Philosophy, 2016–2017, \$8,000
- APA Central Graduate Student Travel Stipend, 2016, \$300
- Ontario Graduate Scholarship, 2015–2016, \$15,000
- APA Pacific Graduate Student Travel Stipend, 2015, \$400
- Dr. Yee Scholarship in Medieval Philosophy, 2015–2016, \$6,000
- Ontario Graduate Scholarship, 2014–2015, \$15,000
- Dr. Yee Scholarship in Medieval Philosophy, 2014–2015, \$1,994
- Dr. Yee Scholarship in Medieval Philosophy, 2013–2014, \$500
- Dr. Yee Scholarship in Medieval Philosophy, 2012–2013, \$5,000

SERVICE

To the Profession

- Chair, Program Committee, CPA Annual Meeting 2023
- Co-organizer, Workshop, *The Philosophical Thought of Godfrey of Fontaines*, Ottawa, 2022
- Co-organizer, Symposium, *Medieval Philosophy: Emerging Research in Canada*, CPA Annual Meeting 2022
- Member, Faculty Essay Prize Subcommittee, CPA Annual Meeting 2022
- Member, Program Committee, CPA Annual Meeting 2022 (Ancient & Medieval Philosophy)
- Referee, *Canadian Philosophical Association; Topoi: An International Review of Philosophy*

To StFX University

- Member, Review Committee, StFX Undergraduate Student Research Awards, 2022
- Secretary, Department of Philosophy, 2020–present

LANGUAGES

- Latin
- German
- French

REFERENCES

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

Prof. Antoine Côté
University of Ottawa
Department of Philosophy
Desmarais Building, Room 8127
55 Laurier Ave. East
Ottawa, ON, Canada, K1N 6N5
antoine.cote@uottawa.ca

Prof. Peter King
University of Toronto
Department of Philosophy
170 St. George Street, Room 521
Toronto, ON, Canada, M5R 2M8
peter.king@utoronto.ca

Prof. Deborah Black
University of Toronto
Department of Philosophy
170 St. George Street, Room 501
Toronto, ON, Canada, M5R 2M8
deborah.black@utoronto.ca

Prof. Peter Eardley
University of Guelph
Department of Philosophy
MacKinnon Building, Room 336
87 Trent Ln.
Guelph, ON, Canada N1G 1Y4
peardley@uoguelph.ca

Prof. Franz Huber (teaching advisor)
University of Toronto
Department of Philosophy
170 St. George Street, Room 425
Toronto, ON, Canada, M5R 2M8
franz.huber@utoronto.ca