

CURRICULUM VITAE

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Education and work history

2018- present – professor, Rutgers University – Newark.
2010- 2018 – associate professor, Rutgers University – Newark.
2006- 2010 – associate professor, Yale University.
2000-2006 – assistant professor, Yale University.
1998-1999 – Mellon postdoctoral fellow, Cornell University.
1998 – Ph.D. Philosophy, Rutgers University.

Ph.D. Thesis

Director: Brian Loar
*Conceivability and Consciousness**
Degree obtained: October 1998

*My dissertation was selected by Robert Nozick for publication in the series *Harvard Dissertations in Philosophy*.

Areas of specialization

Philosophy of mind
Philosophy of psychology/cognitive science
Free will and personal identity
Metaphysics
Value theory
Buddhist philosophy

Forthcoming:

1. The rise and fall of the mind-body problem ([pdf](#)). In C. Besson, A. Hattiangadi, & R. Padró, eds.) *Meaning, Modality and Mind: Essays Commemorating the 50th Anniversary of Naming and Necessity*, Oxford University Press, 2024.

2. The illusion of the enduring self. ([pdf](#)). In M. Nida-Rümelin & J. Bugnon (Eds.), *The Phenomenology of Self-Awareness and the Nature of Conscious Subjects*. Routledge, 2024.

In preparation:

3. Psychology, Neuroscience and the Consciousness Dilemma ([pdf](#)).
4. The Value of Consciousness, in *The Importance of Being Conscious*, (eds. Adam Pautz and Geoffrey Lee), Oxford University Press, 2024.

Book:

5. *Consciousness and Meaning: Selected Essays by Brian Loar*, Oxford University Press, 2017. (Editor, Introduction to Loar's Philosophy of Mind, pp. 137-152) ([pdf](#)).

Published papers

6. The abolition of phenomena: a voyage among the zombies ([pdf](#)), in *Klesis* n° 55, 2023, <https://www.revue-klesis.org/>
7. Disillusioned ([pdf](#)). *Journal of Consciousness Studies* 27 (5-6)38-54, 2020.
8. Either/Or: Subjectivity, Objectivity and Value ([pdf](#)). In: *Becoming Someone New: Essays on Transformative Experience, Choice and Change*, eds. Enoch Lambert and John Schwenkler, Oxford University Press (UK), 254-69, 2020.
9. Hard, Harder, Hardest ([pdf](#)), in *Sensations, Thoughts, Language: Essays in Honor of Brian Loar*, Arthur Sullivan (ed.), Routledge Festschriften in Philosophy, Routledge, 265-289, 2020.
10. Illusionism's Discontent ([pdf](#)). *Journal of Consciousness Studies*, 23(11-12), 40-51, 2016.
11. Acquaintance and the Mind-Body Problem ([pdf](#)). In Christopher Hill and Simone Gozzano (Eds.), *New Perspectives on Type Identity: The Mental and the Physical*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 16-43, 2012.
12. In Defense of the Phenomenal Concept Strategy ([pdf](#)). *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*, 84(1), 1-23, 2012.
13. Jerry Fodor on Non-Conceptual Content ([pdf](#)). *Synthese*, 170 (2), 311-320, 2009.
14. Phenomenal Concepts ([pdf](#)). In Brian McLaughlin, Ansgar Beckermann, and Sven Walter (Eds.), *The Oxford Handbook of Philosophy of Mind* (pp. 292-312). Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2009.
15. Ontological Novelty, Emergence, and the Mind-Body Problem ([pdf](#)). In Günter Abel (Ed.)

Kreativität (pp. 371-399). Hamburg: Meiner Verlag, 2006.

16. The A Priori Entailment Thesis ([pdf](#)). *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*, 62(3), 645-654, 2001.
17. Conceivability, Possibility, and the Mind-Body Problem ([pdf](#)), *The Philosophical Review* 108 (4), 497-528, 1999. Chosen by *The Philosopher's Annual* as one of the ten best articles appearing in print in 2000. Reprinted in Volume XXIII of *The Philosopher's Annual*.

Essays on politics, culture, and philosophy for a general audience

18. [‘Son of Saul’, Kierkegaard and the Holocaust](#), *The New York Times*, February 28th, 2016.

[Reposted](#) in the online magazine [3 Quarks Daily](#), March 3, 2016.

Also published in the largest political and literary weekly in Hungary, (print and online, print circulation 15,000), under the title [“A láthatóvá tett lélek”](#), *Élet és Irodalom*, Vol. LX, No 13, April 1, 2016.

Also published in the German philosophical-cultural magazine *Hohle Luft*, under the title [“Der Holocaust, die Kunst und das Kino”](#), Issue #1, 2017, pp. 56-60 (translation: Korbinian Nida-Rümelin).

Also published in the German cultural magazine *Human Factor* under the title [„Innerlichkeit sichtbar gemacht: Kierkegaard, der Holocaust und der Film 'Son of Saul'”](#)

19. [The Brain's I, part 4](#), [3 Quarks Daily](#), July 17, 2017,

20. [The man of the hour](#), [3 Quarks Daily](#), February 27, 2017.

[Reposted](#) on [Leiter Reports](#), March 7, 2017.

[Reposted](#) on [Bookforum](#), March 9, 2017.

21. [A crack in everything](#), [3 Quarks Daily](#), November 28, 2016.

22. [The Brain's I, part 3](#), [3 Quarks Daily](#), September 5, 2016.

23. [The Brain's I, part 2](#), [3 Quarks Daily](#), August 8, 2016.

24. [The Brain's I, part 1](#), [3 Quarks Daily](#), July 11, 2016.

25. [An inconsistent triad: Clinton, Sanders, Trump, and the radical mismatch in the theater of politics](#), [3 Quarks Daily](#), June 13, 2016.

[Reposted](#) on [Leiter Reports](#), June 15, 2016.

26. 5 entries (on Descartes' dualism, Ryle's behaviorism, Fodor's account of Language of Thought, Parfit's theory of persons, Chalmers' zombies, and Free Will) in *30-second Philosophies*, Ivy Press, 2009. (Foreign editions: German, French, Italian, Spanish, Portugese, Greek, Hungarian, Russian and Chinese.)

Reviews:

27. [Review](#) of Torin Alter and Sven Walter (eds.), *Phenomenal Concepts and Phenomenal Knowledge*. *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews*, May 17, 2008.
28. Comments on Ned Block's target article Consciousness, accessibility, and the mesh between psychology and neuroscience ([pdf](#)). *Behavioral and Brain Sciences* 30(4), 499-500, 2007.
29. Review of David Papineau's *Thinking about Consciousness* ([pdf](#)). *Mind* 113 (452), 774-778, 2004.
30. Phenomenality and Higher order thought [symposium contribution on David Rosenthal's article Consciousness, Content, and Metacognitive Judgements] ([pdf](#)). *Consciousness and Cognition*, 9 (2), 215-219, 2000.
31. Review of Jennifer Hornsby's *Simple Mindedness: In Defense of Naive Naturalism in the Philosophy of Mind* ([pdf](#)), *The Philosophical Review*, 108(4), 562-565, 1999.

Grants and awards

1. Winner in the American Philosophical Association's 2017 Public Philosophy Op-Ed Contest for the essay "Son of Saul", Kierkegaard and the Holocaust".
2. Central European University Institute for Advanced Studies, Senior Research Fellow, Spring 2012.
3. Fulbright Travel Grant, Spring 2012.
4. Collegium Budapest, Senior Research Fellow, 2005-2006.
5. American Association of University Women Research Grant, 2005-2006.
6. Whitney Griswold Faculty Grant, Yale University, Summer 2005.
7. Morse Faculty Fellowship, Yale University, 2002-2003.
8. Whitney Griswold Faculty Grant, Yale University, Summer 2002.
9. My paper "Conceivability, Possibility, and the Mind-Body Problem", *The Philosophical Review*, Vol 108, No 4 (October 1999) was chosen by *The Philosopher's Annual* as one of the ten best

articles appearing in print in 2000. It has been reprinted in Volume XXIII of *The Philosopher's Annual*.

10. Mellon Postdoctoral Fellowship, Cornell University, 1998-1999.
11. Graduate Student Award of the APA Pacific Division, for paper delivered in April 6, 1996.
12. Excellence Fellowship, Rutgers University, 1990-1993.
13. Soros Fellowship, 1989-90.
14. National Award for Literary Translation (short stories by Karen Blixen), Budapest, Hungary, 1989.

Academic presentations:

1. “Defending what remains of the mind”, October 3, 2023, talk in the zoom workshop “The Value of Consciousness”, organized by Uriah Kriegel.
2. “The abolition of phenomena: a voyage among the zombies”, at the one-day workshop on *Agency and consciousness*, the Munich Center for Mathematical Philosophy at Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich, June 23, 2023.
3. “Illusionism and its critics”, presentation at the Philosophy of Consciousness seminar at New York University, April 14, 2023.
4. “The rise and fall of the Mind-Body Problem”, talk at *Naming and Necessity at Fifty*, conference in honor of Saul Kripke, CUNY, December 12-13, 2022.
5. “The abolition of phenomena: a voyage among the zombies”, talk at *To be or not to be conscious*, workshop and conference at Ruhr-Universität Bochum, September 29-30, 2022.
6. Commentator, *Cornell Workshop on Mind and Value: Acquaintance*, May 13-15, 2022, Cornell University.
7. American Philosophical Association author meets critics session, discussant of David Papineau’s book *The Metaphysics of Perception*, April 16, 2022.
8. “The rise and fall of the Mind-Body Problem”, *Ranch Metaphysics Workshop* in Tucson, Arizona January 26-30, 2022.
9. Discussing Henry Flynt’s book *Three essays on Spirituality and Art* with the author on zoom broadcast to a live event at YAH[matter]HYLE studio in Athens, Greece, Dec 11th, 2021.
10. “The dissolution of the mind-body problem”, guest zoom lecture in the seminar on Philosophy of Mind, Columbia University, December 16, 2020.

11. “Experience and value”, [*Summer of Consciousness*](#) (lecture series organized by Uriah Kriegel at Rice University), zoom talk, May 13, 2020.
12. “Experience and value”, Rice University, March 26, 2020. (Canceled due to pandemic)
13. “Subjectivity, experience and value”, University of Edinburgh, UK, December 15, 2019.
14. “Either/or: subjectivity, objectivity and value”, Bilkent University, Ankara, Turkey, May 15, 2019.
15. “Either/or: subjectivity, objectivity and the good life”, colloquium at Central European University, December 4th, 2018.
16. “Either/or: subjectivity, objectivity and the good life”, workshop on *Transformative Experience*, Yale University, November 8-9, 2018.
17. “Metaphysical indeterminacy and the mind-body problem”, guest keynote speaker at *Mind Brazil International Workshop: David Chalmers*, August 21-23, 2018, in Tiradentes, Brazil.
18. “Desperately seeking the Self”, conference on *The phenomenology of self-awareness and the nature of conscious subjects*, Fribourg, May 23-26, 2018.
19. “Physicalism, dualism, and metaphysical gridlock”, workshop on *Grounding and Consciousness*, New York University – German Humboldt Foundation, Florence, August 6-9, 2017.
20. “Zombies, illuminati and metaphysical gridlock”, invited talk at *CaSE: Consciousness and Semantic Externalism*, co-sponsored by the NYU Department of Philosophy, the NYU Institute for Mind, Brain, and Consciousness, and the NYU Abu Dhabi Institute, May 12-13, 2017.
21. “Either/or: subjectivity, objectivity and the good life”, presentation to discussion group, organized by Project on Consciousness, NYU Global Institute for Advanced Study, April 25, 2017.
22. “Either/or: subjectivity, objectivity and the good life”, invited talk, Pre-conference on *Transformative Experience* (org. Laurie Paul), Pacific APA, April 11-12, 2017.
23. “Zombies, illuminati, and metaphysical gridlock”, CEU-Rutgers Mind Workshop, Central European University, Budapest, January 6-7, 2017.
24. “Subjectivity and objectivity in understanding ourselves and others”, German House, New York City, October 13, 2016.
25. “The quotational account”, keynote lecture at the conference *Acquaintance*, Institute of Philosophy, London, June 20-21, 2016.
26. “Zombies and illuminati”, invited speaker at the conference *Grounding and Consciousness*, University of Birmingham, June 17-18, 2016.

27. “Hard, hard and hard”, talk at *Mind and Metaphysics*, A Conference in Honor of Howard Robinson, Central European University, Budapest, January 8-9, 2016.
28. “The relationship between objective and subjective understanding in Kierkegaard and Buddhism”, [*A night of philosophy*](#), Cultural Services of the French Embassy and the Ukrainian Institute of America, New York City, April 24, 2015.
29. “Phenomenal consciousness and the mind-brain relationship”, *The Aims of Brain Research: Scientific and Philosophical Perspectives* Jerusalem and Tel-Aviv December 1-4, 2014.
30. “Three problems of consciousness in light of the phenomenal concept strategy”, *Memorial conference on the work of Brian Loar*, Rutgers University, October 9th, 2014.
31. “Hard, Harder, Hardest”, paper presented at the conference *Conscious Thought and Thought about Consciousness* at the University of Mississippi, April 28, 2014.
32. “Hard, Harder, Hardest”, paper presented at the *Consciousness Symposium* at Texas Christian University, March 28, 2014.
33. “Hard, Harder, Hardest”, paper presented at the NYU Philosophy department, organized by SWIP-Analytic, Society for Women in Philosophy, February 11, 2014.
34. Participant-at-large at the Workshop on Mind and Attention in Indian Philosophy, Harvard University, September 21-22, 2013.
35. Commentary on Stephen Angle, “Nature (xing) as ground of ethics; Buddhism and/versus Neo-Confucianism”, and Justin Tiwald, “The relationship between imperatives and natural tendencies in Neo-Confucianism”, The Inaugural Rutgers Workshop on Chinese Philosophy (RWCP), An International Conference on Nature and Value in Chinese and Western Philosophies, April 4-5, 2013.
36. “The Quotational Account of Phenomenal Concepts”, talk at the *Conference on Phenomenal Concepts at the Center of Ethics and Philosophy of Mind* at the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, January 24-27, 2013.
37. “Psychology, Neuroscience and the Consciousness Dilemma”, presentation to discussion group, organized by Project on Consciousness, NYU Global Institute for Advanced Study, December 3, 2012.
38. Commentary on Thomas Nagel, *Mind and Cosmos*, at the *Workshop on the Evolution and Function of Consciousness*, organized by the Project on Consciousness, NYU Global Institute for Advanced Study, October 27, 2012.
39. “The Phenomenal Concept Strategy and Its Critics”, keynote address at the conference *Indexicality and the Mind: Phenomenal Concepts and the Explanation of Consciousness in a Physicalistic Framework*, Humboldt University in Berlin, July 27-28, 2012.
40. Participant in the NEH Summer Research Institute *Investigating Consciousness: Buddhist and*

Contemporary Philosophical Perspectives at the College of Charleston, May 22-June 2, 2012. Delivered talk “Self-awareness”.

41. “Psychology, Neuroscience and the Consciousness Dilemma”, at the *Budapest Workshop in Philosophy of Mind and Cognitive Science*, Central European University, May 15, 2012.
42. “Zombies and Illuminati”, talk at the *Fellow Seminar series* at the Central European University Institute for Advanced Studies, March 15, 2012.
43. “Psychology, Neuroscience, and the Consciousness Dilemma” contributed session at the Consciousness Online 4 conference <https://consciousnessonline.wordpress.com/program-2012/>, February 17 – March 2, 2012.
44. "Psychology, Neuroscience, and the Consciousness Dilemma", talk in the *What is cognitive science?* series at Rutgers University Center for Cognitive Science, November 17, 2011.
45. “The Quotational Account of Phenomenal Concepts”, ANU Philosophy Colloquia, Canberra, August 18, 2011.
46. “The Phenomenal Concept Strategy”, presentation at the Cognitive Science Workshop at Collegium Budapest, Budapest, July 13, 2011.
47. Commentary on “A Priori Testimony Revisited” by Anna-Sara Malmgren, Carolina Metaphysics Workshop, Duck, North Carolina, June 30, 2011.
48. “Acquaintance and the Quotational Account of Phenomenal Concepts”, Cognitive Science Speaker Series at the CUNY Graduate Center, December 10, 2010.
49. “The Quotational Account of Phenomenal Concepts”, talk at the NJIT Philosophy Department, November 16, 2010.
50. “Illuminati, zombies, and metaphysical gridlock”, presentation at the Seminar on Philosophy of Mind at the NYU Philosophy Department, March 8, 2010.
51. Commentary on "Ambiguous Figures and Representationalism", by Nicoletta Orlandi, at the 2009 Eastern Division meeting of the APA, December 28, 2009.
52. “How I learned to live with the Explanatory Gap”, invited lecture at the Department of Philosophy at Rutgers University, Newark, December 9th, 2009.
53. “Illuminati, zombies, and metaphysical gridlock”, presentation for the Consciousness Project, NYU Philosophy Department, November 17th, 2009.
54. “Illuminati, zombies, and metaphysical gridlock”, invited lecture at the Rutgers University Philosophy Department Colloquium Series, Sept. 24, 2009.
55. “Illuminati, zombies and metaphysical gridlock”, invited symposium *Conceivability and the Mind-Body Problem*, APA Pacific Division, Vancouver, April 8-12, 2009 (with David Chalmers and

Stephen Yablo).

56. “In Defense of the Phenomenal Concept Strategy”, *Consciousness Online, the Cyber Consciousness Conference*, February 20-27, 2009.
57. “Physicalism and the conceivability arguments”, invited lecture at the University of Massachusetts Philosophy Department, December 5, 2008.
58. “Physicalism and the conceivability arguments”, lecture at Central European University, Budapest, July 17, 2008.
59. “Parfit and the Buddhist doctrine of No Self”, invited lecture at Nalandabodhi New York, June 16, 2008.
60. “Zombies, Conceivability Arguments and the Phenomenal Concept Strategy”, invited lecture at Union College, March 6th, 2008.
61. “Anti-physicalist arguments and physicalist defenses”, invited lecture at CUNY Graduate Center, October 24, 2007.
62. “Dualist and physicalist accounts of acquaintance”, presentation at the Symposium on Phenomenal Concepts at the conference *Toward a Science of Consciousness 2007*, Budapest, July 24, 2007.
63. “Consciousness and emergence”, lecture at the conference *Emergence in Science and Philosophy*, Milan, June 19-21, 2007.
64. “Phenomenal Concepts and the Mind-Body Problem”, invited lecture in the Cognitive Science Senior Seminar at Yale University, October 19, 2007.
65. “Hard, Harder, Hardest”, paper delivered at the Budapest Mind Society Conference, July 25, 2006.
66. Lecturing on physicalism and the mind-body problem at the Summer University (SUN) Program at Central European University, Budapest, July 3-14th, 2006. SUN is an academic program for young faculty, researchers and professionals, postdocs and advanced doctoral students.
67. “Hard, Harder, Hardest”, paper delivered at the Department of Philosophy, University of Fribourg, June 23rd, 2006.
68. “Does the constitutional account of phenomenal concepts solve the mind-body problem? An answer to Chalmers”, paper delivered at the Budapest Mind Society, Central European University, April 12, 2006.
69. “Why the Phenomenal Concept Strategy Works: An Answer to Chalmers”, presentation at the conference *Philosophy of Mind in Budapest*, March 30, 2006.

70. “Can philosophy help the sciences to solve the mind-body problem”, presentation at the Fellow Seminar series at Collegium Budapest, Budapest, March 2, 2006.
71. “Is there non-conceptual content after all?”, Department of History and Philosophy of Science, Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest, December 5, 2005.
72. “Creativity in Nature”, paper at a plenary symposium of the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Philosophie (the German equivalent of APA), September 27, 2005, Berlin, Germany.
73. “Why Frank is right to jilt Mary?”, paper delivered at a conference in honor of Howard Robinson, Central European University, Budapest, September 22, 2005.
74. “The Quotation Account of Phenomenal Concepts”, paper delivered at the MIT Philosophy Department Colloquium Series, October 29, 2004.
75. “Mental Quotation: a Cure for the Mind-Body Problem”, paper delivered at the Workshop on Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Mind, Language and Action, Collegium Budapest, July 17-31, 2004.
76. Comments on Jerry Fodor’s “Revenge of the Given”, at The Steven Humphrey Excellence in Philosophy Conference: "Content and Concepts: A Conference on the Philosophy of Mind" at the University of California, Santa Barbara, February 14, 2004.
77. Comments on Sean Kelly’s “The Logic of Motor Intentional Activity”, at the *Themes in Philosophy of Language* conference, Yale University, November 8, 2003.
78. “The Quotational Account of Phenomenal Concepts”, Towards a Science of Consciousness 2003 Conference: Between Phenomenology and Neuroscience, Prague, Czech Republic, July 7th, 2003.
79. “Hard, Harder, Hardest” paper delivered at the Cognitive Science Symposium, CUNY, March 21, 2003.
80. Participant in the NEH Summer Institute on *Consciousness and Intentionality*, University of California, Santa Cruz, June 24 – August 2, 2002. Delivered talk “Mental Quotation”.
81. “Phenomenal Concepts”, paper delivered at the Bled Conference on Metaphysics, June 4-9, 2001.
82. “Metaphysics and Conceptual Analysis”, paper delivered at ELTE University (Budapest), February 8, 2000.
83. “The Mind-Body Problem”, paper delivered at Central European University (Budapest), October 12, 1999.
84. “Conceivability Arguments: The Revenge of the Zombies”, paper delivered at Yale University, February 5, 1999.
85. “Conceivability, Possibility, and the Mind-Body Problem”, paper delivered at the Sage School

of Philosophy, Cornell University, January 29, 1999.

86. "Is Conceivability a Reliable Guide to Possibility?", paper delivered at the Twentieth World Congress of Philosophy, Boston, August 14, 1998.
87. "The New Conceivability Arguments", paper delivered at the conference entitled *Toward a Science of Consciousness*, Tucson, April 28, 1998.
88. "The New Conceivability Arguments Against Physicalism", paper delivered at the Pacific Division meeting of the American Philosophical Association (APA), April 1998.
89. "Computationalism and Consciousness", paper delivered in Claremont, California, at the ASSC Conference, June 13-16 1997.
90. "The Revenge of the Zombies", paper delivered in Bled, Slovenia, at the Conference on Modality, June 6, 1997.
91. "The Connection Principle Disconnected", paper delivered at the Pacific Division meeting of the American Philosophical Association (APA), April 6, 1996.
The paper won the Graduate Student Award of the APA.
92. "Unconscious Denied", paper delivered at the New Jersey Regional Philosophy Association Meeting, November 19, 1994.

Public philosophy lectures:

1. "Subjectivity and objectivity in understanding ourselves and others", German House, New York City, October 13, 2016.
2. "Consciousness and subjectivity", speaker and panelist at the conference *Science for monks*, involving Western scientists, philosophers, Tibetan monastic scholars, 300 monks, and a Tibetan lay audience including high school students, Bylakuppe, India, October 5-9, 2015. (See proceeding from the event under "Writing for the general public".)
3. "The Relationship between Objective and Subjective Understanding in Kierkegaard and Buddhism", [*A night of philosophy*](#), Cultural Services of the French Embassy and the Ukrainian Institute of America, New York City, April 24, 2015.