James Sherman

SSHRC Postdoctoral Fellow

Dept. of Philosophy, Univ. of Toronto

CONTACT Centre for Ethics james.sherman@utoronto.ca
INFORMATION 6 Hoskin Avenue Phone: 647-996-4514

Toronto ON MEC 1110

Toronto, ON M5S 1H8

SPECIALIZATION Political Philosophy and Philosophy of Law, Ethics

COMPETENCE Ancient Philosophy, Applied Ethics

EDUCATION Ph.D., Philosophy, University of Texas at Austin

Visiting student at Oxford University, Hilary and Trinity Terms 2008

Degree conferred: May 2011

A.B., Interdisciplinary Studies in the Humanities, University of Chicago.

Degree conferred: June 2004

Regis High School, New York, NY, 2000

PUBLICATIONS "Unresolved Problems in the Service Conception of Authority" Oxford Journal of Legal

Studies Vol. 30 No. 2 (2010) pp 319-340.

"A New Instrumental Theory of Rights" *Ethical Theory and Moral Practice* Vol. 13 No. 2

(2010) pp 215-228.

"Utility, Autonomy and the Harm Principle" *Proceedings of the Northwestern University*

Conference in Ethical Theory and Political Philosophy, May 2007.

"The Aesthetics of Irezumi in Kuniyoshi's Suikoden" Select Papers of the Center for East

Asian Studies Vol. XII, University of Chicago Press, forthcoming.

UNDER REVIEW "Decisions in Complex Circumstances"

"Chrysippus and Posidonius on Excessive Impulse: A Study in Stoic Moral Psychology"

IN PREPARATION/

Argumentation and Ethics in Advertising (with Dan Bonevac) Wiley Business

FUTURE PROJECTS "Practical Authority and the Principle of Autonomy"

"The Function of Rights"

"Adjudication, Equity and Discretion"

"Reason, Virtue and Supererogation"

"The Measurement of Freedom"

"Epigenetics and Harm to Future Persons"

"Rational Advertising and Respect"

DISSERTATION Toward an Aristotelian Liberalism

[Passed without revisions; nominated: University Award for Outstanding Dissertation]

My dissertation develops and defends a contemporary Aristotelian form of political liberalism. I articulate an Aristotelian interpretation of individual autonomy as excellence in deliberating about ends, and develop a decision-theoretic model for representing this type of deliberation. I then provide a precise characterization of individual freedom, building on Amartya Sen's neo-Aristotelian theory of freedom as capability. I argue that we should understand individual liberty, the guiding value of political liberalism, as a compound of autonomy and freedom as I

have articulated these notions. I then argue that liberty in this sense is the proper focus of a liberal theory of distributive justice. I provide an instrumental justification of the state's authority to pursue a liberty-based program of distributive justice, and argue for an autonomy-based interpretation of the harm principle as the appropriate limitation on state action.

TALKS AND PRESENTATIONS	"Freedom, Capability and Well-Being" University of Texas at Austin Graduate Colloquium	April 2010	
	"Unresolved Problems in the Service Conception of Authority" University of Texas at Austin Graduate Colloquium	April 2009	
	"A New Instrumental Theory of Rights" - Oxford University Jurisprudence Discussion Group - Oxford University Ockham Society	May 2008 January 2008	
	"Utility, Autonomy and the Harm Principle" - Northwestern Conference in Ethical Theory and Political Philosophy - University of Texas at Austin Graduate Colloquium	May 2007 March 2007	
COMMENTS	Comment on "Deliberation and Sudden Action" Mind, Language, Knowledge Conference (UT Austin)	January 2010	
	Comment on "Feasibility and Human Rights: Does 'Ought' Imply 'Can'?" London Forum in Moral & Political Philosophy (UCL)	April 2008	
	Comment on "In Defense of Lewis' Analysis of Fiction" Graduate Student Philosophy Conference (UT Austin)	May 2005	
AWARDS AND HONORS	Nominated: University Award for Outstanding Dissertation (Humanities) University of Texas at Austin Graduate School Continuing Fellowship University of Texas at Austin Graduate School Fellowship University of Texas at Austin Professional Development Award Francis X. Kinahan Memorial Prize for Outstanding Bachelor's Thesis <i>Phi Beta Kappa</i>	May 2011 2010-2011 2007-2008 2007 2004 2004	
TEACHING ASSISTANTSHIPS	Science and the Modern World Business Ethics Contemporary Moral Problems Introduction to Philosophy Modern Philosophy: Descartes to Kant Philosophy of Religion Christian Philosophy Human Nature		
SIGNATURE COURSE TA	Ideas of the 20 th Century This position included additional responsibilities, such as selecting weekly supplemental readings, and giving short lectures on those readings in tutorial sessions.		
INSTRUCTOR TRAINING	UT Austin Philosophy Department – Supervised Teaching in Philosophy, 2009 UT Austin School of Undergraduate Studies – Certificate in Interdisciplinary Instruction, 2009		
RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIPS	Research on reason and ethics in advertising Assisted with preparations for an interdisciplinary conference hosted at UT	2008 - present 2006 - 2007	

ACADEMIC SERVICE	Session Chair - APA Pacific Division Meeting Referee - UT Austin Graduate Conference Session Chair - UT Austin Graduate Conference		April 2009 2006 - 2009 2006 - 2007
READING GROUPS	Law and Philosophy Discussion Group, UT Selections from <i>Moral Psychology</i> (Walter Sinnott-Armstrong), UT Experiments in Ethics (Kwame Anthony Appiah), Oxford Justice in Robes (Ronald Dworkin), UT What We Owe to Each Other (T. M. Scanlon), UT		2004 - present 2009 2008 2007 2005
MEMBERSHIPS	American Philosophical Association Center for the Philosophy of Advertising American Society for Political and Legal Phil	2007 - present 2007 - present 2007 - present	
GRADUATE	Political/Legal Philosophy		
COURSES TAKEN/ AUDITED	Marx vs. Rawls The Rule of Law (audit) Fundamental Concepts of Political Theory Legal Interpretation Decision Theory Advanced Topics in Jurisprudence Jurisprudence Seminar (Oxford) (audit)	David Braybrooke L. Green/J. Gardner J. Budjieszewski A.P. Martinich Sahotra Sarkar Brian Leiter T. Endicott	2005 2005 2005 2006 2006 2006 2008
	<u>Ethics</u>		
	Aristotle's Ethics Ancient Virtue Ethics Nietzsche, Religion & Values Ethics in the 20 th Century The Practicality of Moral Judgment Moral Philosophy Seminar (Oxford) (audit)	Stephen White Stephen White Kathleen Higgins Jonathan Dancy Jonathan Dancy Krister Bykvist	2004 2006 2006 2006 2007 2008
	Ancient Philosophy		
	Aristotle's Ethics Posidonius Ancient Virtue Ethics Plato's Middle Dialogues Metaphysics and Philosophy of Language	Stephen White Stephen White Stephen White Paul Woodruff	2004 2005 2006 2007
	Modal Metaphysics Logic Theories of Reference Interpretation and Meaning	Robert Koons Josh Dever Mark Sainsbury A.P. Martinich	2004 2005 2005 2006
REFERENCES	Daniel Bonevac bonevac@austin.utexas.edu Stephen White sawhite@uts.cc.utexas.edu Thomas Hurka tom.hurka@utoronto.ca	Jonathan Dancy jdancy@austin.utexas.edu A.P. Martinich martinich@mail.utexas.edu	