

# **Christopher A. Pynes, Ph.D.**

## *Curriculum Vitae*

Department of Mathematics & Philosophy  
Western Illinois University  
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### **ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS:**

Professor of Philosophy, **Western Illinois University**, (Fall 2014 – present)  
Associate Professor of Philosophy (tenured), **Western Illinois University**, (Fall 2009 – Spring 2014)  
Assistant Professor of Philosophy, **Western Illinois University**, (Fall 2005 – Spring 2009)  
Co-Director, Program for the Study of Ethics at **WIU**, (Spring 2006 – Spring 2015)  
Course Director, Tennessee Governor’s School for the Sciences @ **UTK**, (Summers: 2005 – 2011)  
Lecturer of Philosophy, **University of Tennessee, Knoxville**, (Fall 2003 – Summer 2005)

### **ADMINISTRATIVE & LEADERSHIP POSITIONS:**

**Interim Associate Provost, Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs**, Western Illinois University (July 2024 – present) Academic Programs, Research, and Institutional Effectiveness  
**Interim Director, Institutional Research and Planning**, Western Illinois University (January 2024 – June 2024)  
**Co-editor, Philosophical Gourmet** (2017 – present): <https://www.philosophicalgourmet.com>  
**Chair, Faculty Senate**, Western Illinois University. (Elected to five, separate one-year terms AYs 2015-2017 & AYs 2018-2021)

### **EDUCATION:**

Ph.D., Philosophy, **Florida State University**, Tallahassee, FL, 2003  
M.A., Philosophy, **San Diego State University**, San Diego, CA, 1998  
B.A., Philosophy, **University of California, Santa Barbara**, Santa Barbara, CA, 1996  
A.A., Political Science and Philosophy, **Santa Barbara City College**, Santa Barbara, CA, 1994

**AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION:** Ethics, Logic, & Philosophy of Science

**AREAS OF COMPETENCE:** Philosophy of Mind, Philosophy of Language, & Philosophy of Law

### **PUBLICATIONS:**

#### **Books**

- *The Stem Cell Controversy*, revised/2<sup>nd</sup> edition, co-edited with Michael Ruse (Prometheus), 2006.
- *The Stem Cell Controversy*, co-edited with Michael Ruse (Amherst, NY: Prometheus), 2003.

#### **Articles**

- “Fair and Principled Grade Exempting,” *Teaching Philosophy* (Forthcoming)
- “Seven Arguments Against Extra Credit,” *Teaching Philosophy* 37.2 (June, 2014): 191-214.  
Reprinted in *College Ethics*, Bob Fischer, ed. (Oxford UP, 2016): 598-614.  
Reprinted in *College Ethics*, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, Bob Fischer, ed. (Oxford UP, 2020): 607-622.
- “If Monty Hall Falls or Crawls,” *European Journal of Analytic Philosophy* 9.2 (2013): 33-47.
- “Ad Hominem Arguments and Intelligent Design,” *Zygon: Journal of Religion and Science* 47.2 (June, 2012): 289-297.
- “A Modern Analytic Socrates and Meno’s Paradox: A Dialogue,” *Inquiry: Critical Thinking Across the Disciplines* 21.3 (2003): 23-25.
- “Validity, Schema, and a *Modus Tollens* Paradox,” *Southwest Philosophy Review* 18.1 (2002): 53-63.
- “Plato’s *Republic*: A Tale of Two Cities” (with Donald C. Hodges), *Telos* 123 (2002): 175-182.

### **Book Chapter**

- “Why Is There A Stem Cell Debate? And How to Depoliticize It” in *Philosophy of Biology*, edited by Michael Ruse, Prometheus, (2007): 425-433.

### **Encyclopedia Entries**

- “Bioethics of Cloning” in *Encyclopedia of Life Sciences*, John Wiley & Sons: Chichester. <http://www.els.net/> [DOI: 10.1002/9780470015902.a0003475], (September, 2010).
- “*In vitro* Fertilization Regulations” in *Encyclopedia of Life Sciences*, John Wiley & Sons: Chichester. <http://www.els.net/> [DOI: 10.1002/9780470015902.a0005185.pub2], (September, 2010).
- “Human Cloning: Legal Aspects” in *Encyclopedia of Life Sciences*, John Wiley & Sons: Chichester. <http://www.els.net/> [DOI: 10.1002/9780470015902.a0005200.pub2], (December, 2009).

### **Book Reviews**

- *What Is Life?: Five Great Ideas In Biology*, Paul Nurse in *The Quarterly Review of Biology* 97.1 (March, 2022): 41-42.
- *Potentiality: Metaphysical and Bioethical Dimensions*, ed. John P. Lizza in *The Quarterly Review of Biology* 91.3 (September, 2016): 352.
- *Abortion and the Moral Significance of Merely Possible Persons*, by Melinda A. Roberts in *Philosophy in Review* 32.3 (2012): 225-227.
- *Arguments and Analysis in Bioethics*, ed. Matti Häyry, Tuija Takala, and Peter Herissone-Kelly *Philosophy in Review* 31.3 (2011): 209-212.
- *Animals and the Moral Community: Mental Life, Moral Status, and Kinship* by Gary Steiner in *The Quarterly Review of Biology* 84.4 (December, 2009): 400-1.
- *Animals as Persons: Essays on the Abolition of Animal Exploitation* by Gary L. Francione in *The Quarterly Review of Biology* 84.3 (September, 2009): 283.
- *Representing Electrons* by Theodore Arabatzis in *Journal of Chemical Education* 84 (2007): 1927.

### **Web-based Publications (partial list)**

Linked at: <https://leiterreports.typepad.com/blog/guess-blogger-christopher-pynes/>

- Scouting, STEM ... and Philosophy? (458 words; March 23, 2017)
- Academic Privilege, Access, and the Problem of Diversity in Philosophy (931 words; 20 October 2016)
- Growing, Improving, and Diversifying Philosophy, Part 3 (1801 words; 21 March 2016)
- Growing, Improving, and Diversifying Philosophy, Part 2 (1277 words; 25 October 2015)
- Growing, Improving, and Diversifying Philosophy, Part 1 (1336 words; 22 October 2015)
- Accreditation, Programs of Instruction, the APA, and the Success and Failure of Philosophy (1404 words; 15 October 2015)
- University Structure and the Success and Failure of Philosophy (1513 words; 13 Oct 2015)
- On David Publishing, Once Again--and the Philosopher's Index (1041 words; 23 June 2013)

### **PAPER PRESENTATIONS: (partial list)**

#### **Refereed**

“Thomson, Abortion, and COVID-19 Vaccine Mandates”

- Illinois Philosophical Association, Illinois State University, Bloomington, IL, November 2023.

“Hospice, DNR Orders, and Suicide Attempts”

- Medical Humanities Conference, Western Michigan Univ., Kalamazoo, MI, September 2018.

“Events, Mass Terms, and *Modus Tollens*”

- Illinois Philosophical Association, Illinois State University, Bloomington, IL, November 2014.

“XKCD’s Blue Eyes Puzzle: Backwards Induction and Collective Knowledge”

- Society for Exact Philosophy, York University, Toronto, ON, Canada, May 2019.
- Midsouth Philosophy Conference, Rhodes College, Memphis, TN, February 2013.
- Illinois Philosophical Association, Univ. of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, IL, November 2012.

“If Monty Hall Falls or Crawls”

- Society for Exact Philosophy, Ohio State University, Columbus, OH, October 2012.

“The ‘Potentiality Problem’ Redux”

- Midsouth Philosophy Conference, Rhodes College, Memphis, TN, February 2012.

- Illinois Philosophical Association, Northern Illinois University, IL, November 2011.
  - Florida Philosophical Association, 57<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, Ft. Lauderdale, FL, November 2011.
  - Indiana Philosophical Association Meeting at Butler University, Indianapolis, IN, April 2008.
- “The Mistake in Monty’s Fall”
- Illinois Philosophical Association, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, IL, October 2009.
  - Florida Philosophical Association, 55<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, Gainesville, FL, November 2009.
- “General Propositions and Triviality” (with Kenneth A. Presting)
- Logic and the Foundations of Game and Decision Theory (LOFT 06), 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, Liverpool, England, July 2006.
- “Events, Mass Terms, and Logical Form”
- American Philosophical Association, Pacific Division, San Francisco, CA, March 2005.

***Invited Talks, Addresses, and Commentaries (Partial List)***

- Comments on Ethan Brauer’s “Metaphysical Nihilism and Modal Logic”
- Illinois Philosophical Association Meeting, EIU, Charleston, IL, November 2018.
- Presidential Address – “Leading Philosophers”
- Illinois Philosophical Association Meeting, NIU, DeKalb, IL, October 2017.
- Comments on Peter van Elswyk’s “Deceiving Without Answering”
- Illinois Philosophical Association Meeting, NIU, DeKalb, IL, October 2017.
- Comments on Landon D. C. Elkind’s “For Inclusive Logic”
- Illinois Philosophical Association Meeting, ICC, Peoria, IL, November 2016.
- Comments on John Lemos’s “Moral Concerns About Responsibility Denial and the Quarantine of Violent Criminals”
- Illinois Philosophical Association Meeting, EIU, Charleston, IL, November 2015.

**AWARDS, GRANTS, & HONORS:**

College of Arts & Science Faculty Excellence Award: Outstanding Service	Spring 2019
WIU, Professional Achievement Award (PAA)	AY 17-18
WIU, Professional Achievement Award (PAA)	AY 14-15
Centennial Honors College Award of Excellence in Mentoring	Spring 2014
WIU, Professional Achievement Award (PAA)	AY 12-13
HOPE (Honoring Our Professor’s Excellence) Teaching Award	Spring 2012
WIU, Professional Achievement Award (PAA)	AY 10-11
WIU, Professional Achievement Award (PAA)	AY 09-10
College of Arts & Science Faculty Excellence Award: Outstanding Teaching	Spring 2010
HOPE (Honoring Our Professor’s Excellence) Teaching Award	Spring 2010
Phi Eta Sigma, Honorary Member (Student Nomination)	Fall 2009
University of Tennessee Research Grant – “Responsible Conduct of Research”	Spring & Summer 2004
The Florida State University Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award	April 2001

**PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS:**

Illinois Philosophical Association	Spring 2008 to present
American Philosophical Association	Fall 1999 to present
Florida Philosophical Association	Fall 1998 to present

**SERVICE ACTIVITIES: (PARTIAL LISTS)**

***Department***

Chair, Department Personnel Committee (2x)	AY 2014-15 & 2015-16
7 Year Philosophy Program Review Committee	Fall 2013 to Spring 2014
Chair, PRS Department Chair Search	AY 2013-14
Chair Department Recruitment Committee	Fall 2011 to Spring 2016
Chair, Philosophy Major Assessment	Fall 2008 to Spring 2013

Department Personnel Committee	(six times)
Philosophy and Religious Studies Department Tech Rep	Fall 2005 to Spring 2016
WIU PRS Department Hiring Committee	(five times)
Philosophy and Religious Studies Web Design and Maintenance	Fall 2005 to Spring 2016

***College and University***

Co-chair, Presidential Search for 12 <sup>th</sup> President of WIU	2019-2020
Chair, WIU Faculty Senate (5x – officers are elected each year)	AYs 2015-17 & AYs 2018-21
WIU Faculty Senate (elected to new 3-year term)	Fall 2018-Spring 2021
Chair, WIU Provost Search Committee	Spring 2015-Fall 2015
WIU Faculty Senate (elected to a 2-year term)	Fall 2015-Spring 2017
University Personnel Committee	Fall 2014 to Spring 2015
CAS Dean Search Committee	AY 2009-10
Internet Technology Advisory Committee, iTac	Fall 2008 to Spring 2010
Chair, President and Provost Performance Committee (2x)	Fall 2008 to Spring 2010
WIU Faculty Senate (3-year term)	Fall 2008-Spring 2011
WIU Faculty Senate (one semester sabbatical replacement)	Spring 2008
WIU Honorary Doctoral Degree Committee	Spring 2007 to Spring 2010
College of Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee	Spring 2007 to Spring 2009
University Sanctions Committee	Fall 2006

***Professional, Student, and Community Organizations***

President, Illinois Philosophical Association	Fall 2015 to Fall 2017
American Philosophical Association, Status and Future of the Profession Committee Member (elected)	Fall 2012 to Spring 2015
Vice President, Illinois Philosophical Association	Fall 2012 to Fall 2014
McDonough District Hospital Ethics Committee	Spring 2007 to present
Faculty Advisor, Student Philosophical Association	Fall 2005 to present
Faculty Advisor, Secular Student Alliance	Fall 2013 to Spring 2016
Faculty Advisor, WIU Bowling Team	Fall 2012 to Spring 2016
Homeowners and Neighborhood Development Strategies (HANDS)	Fall 2005 to Spring 2009