

# Meghan Sullivan

Department of Philosophy  
University of Notre Dame  
100 Malloy Hall  
Notre Dame, IN 46556

Phone: (574) 631-4590  
Office: 109 Malloy Hall  
Email: sullivan.329@nd.edu  
Homepage: meghansullivan.org

## Appointments

Director, Notre Dame Institute for Advanced Study, July 2019-Present.

Professor with tenure, University of Notre Dame, Department of Philosophy, 2017-Present.

Rev. John A. O'Brien Collegiate Professorship, 2017-Present.

Director of the God and the Good Life Program, 2019-Present.

Director of the University Philosophy Requirement, 2016-2019.

Associate Professor with tenure, University of Notre Dame, Department of Philosophy, 2015-2017.

Rev. John A. O'Brien Collegiate Associate Professorship, 2015-2017.

Assistant Professor, University of Notre Dame, Department of Philosophy, 2011-2015.

Rev. John A. O'Brien Collegiate Assistant Professorship, 2013-2015.

## Education

Ph.D. Philosophy, Rutgers University, 2011

Presidential Fellow

Dissertation: *The A-Theory: A Theory*

B.Phil. Philosophy, University of Oxford (Balliol College), 2007

Rhodes Scholar (United States)

Qualifying Exams: Metaphysics/Epistemology, Moral Philosophy, Frege

B.A. Philosophy and Politics (*Highest Distinction*) University of Virginia, 2005

Jefferson Scholar

## Book

1. Sullivan, Meghan. *Time Biases: A Theory of Rational Planning and Personal Persistence*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2018.

Reviewed in NDPR (Tim Campbell, 28 Apr 2019)

## Articles

All co-authored pieces listed are equal contribution.

1. Sullivan, Meghan. "Teaching Evil." *Christian Philosophy: Conceptions, Continuations and Challenges*. ed. J. Aaron Simmon. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2019.
2. Sullivan, Meghan. "Personal Volatility." *Philosophical Issues*. (supplement to *Nous*) 2017. Special Issue: Metaphysics. No. 27, 2017.
3. Sullivan, Meghan. "A Philosophy for the End (Whenever it Comes)." *Georgetown Journal of Law and Public Policy*. Vol. 15, pp. 927-940.

4. Sullivan, Meghan. "Boring Ontological Realism." *Res Philosophica*. Vol. 94, No. 3 (July 2017) pp. 399-413.
5. Finochiarro, Peter and Meghan Sullivan. "Yet Another 'Epicurean' Argument." *Philosophical Perspectives*. Vol. 30 Issue 1 (2016) pp.135-159.
6. Sullivan, Meghan. "Are There Essential Properties? No." *Current Controversies in Metaphysics*. ed. Elizabeth Barnes (New York: Routledge, 2017), pp. 45-61.
7. Sullivan, Meghan. "An A-Theory Without Tense Operators." *Canadian Journal of Philosophy* Vol. 46 Issue 4-5 (2016) pp. 735-758.  
Reprinted in *Williamson on Modality*. eds. Juhani Yli-Vakkuri and Mark McCullagh (London: Routledge, 2018).
8. Sullivan, Meghan. "The Semantic Problem of Hiddenness." in *Hidden Divinity and Religious Belief: New Perspectives* eds. Eleonore Stump and Adam Green. (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2015) pp. 35-52.
9. Sullivan, Meghan. "The Irrelevance of Essence." *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*, Vol. 91, No. 2, Sep 2015, pp. 499-507.
10. Greene, Preston and Meghan Sullivan. "Against Time Bias". *Ethics*. Volume 125 (July 2015), pp.1-24.
11. Sullivan, Meghan. "Modal Oecumenism." *Analysis*. Vol. 75, Issue 2 (2015), pp. 271-283.
12. Sullivan, Meghan and Peter van Inwagen. "Metaphysics (Revised and Updated)." *The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*. (Oct 2014)
13. Sullivan, Meghan. "Change We Can Believe In (and Assert)." *Noûs*, Vol. 48, Issue 3 (Sep 2014), pp. 474-495.
14. Sullivan, Meghan. "Modal Logic as Methodology." *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*. Vol. 88, Issue 3 (May 2014) pp. 734-743.
15. Sullivan, Meghan. "Peter van Inwagen's Defense." *Blackwell Companion to the Problem of Evil*. eds. Daniel Howard-Snyder and Justin McBreuer. (Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell, 2013), pp. 396-410.
16. Sullivan, Meghan. "The Minimal A-Theory." *Philosophical Studies*. Vol. 158, Issue 2 (2012), pp. 149-174.
17. Sullivan, Meghan. "Problems for Temporary Existence in Tense Logic." *Philosophy Compass*. (Jan 2012), pp. 43-57.
18. Sullivan, Meghan. "Semantics for Blasphemy." *Oxford Studies in Philosophy of Religion*. Vol. 4 (2012), pp. 159-173. Finalist for the 2010 Younger Scholars Prize in Philosophical Theology.

## Book Reviews and Other Short Original Articles

1. "The Problem with Lazarus" *Commonweal*. (May 2019)
2. Review of *Objective Becoming* by Bradford Skow for *The Philosophical Review*. (April 2018)
3. Review of *Midlife: A Philosophical Guide* by Kieran Setiya for *Commonweal*.(March 2018)
4. Review of *The Practice of Catholic Theology* by Paul Griffiths for *Commonweal* (Oct 2016)
5. Review of *The Moving Spotlight: An Essay on Time and Ontology* by Ross Cameron for *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews*. (Aug 2016).
6. Review of *The Future of Philosophy of Time*. ed. Adrian Bardon for *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews*. (Feb 2012).

## Books: In Progress

1. *God and the Good Life* with Paul Blaschko.  
Pitched to broad audience, this book articulates a Neo-Aristotelian approach to wrestling with core questions of belief, morality, faith, and meaning.
2. *Agapism: A Theory of Our Inner Lives and Outer Commitments*  
A research monograph on love and the foundations of moral and religious reasoning.

## Articles and Reviews: In Progress

1. "Time Bias, Rationality and Value." for *Philosophy Compass*
2. "Time." Updated entry for *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*. (Co-authoring with Nina Emery and Ned Markosian)
3. "Temporal Discounting in Psychology and Philosophy: Four Proposals for Mutual Research Aid" for *Temporal Asymmetries in Philosophy and Psychology*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. ed. Christoph Hoerl, Teresa McCormack and Alison Fernandes.
4. "Modal Logic and the Methodology of Metaphysics: A Case Study in the Relationship Between Formalism and Abduction"
5. "The Love Imperative: A Defense"
6. "Catholic Philosophy as a Way of Life"
7. "Public Conversion, Private Reason and Institutional Crisis"
8. "Scheduling Deliberation"

## Grants

Solo PI unless otherwise noted.

Mellon Foundation Grant "Philosophy as Way of Life" (2018-2021)

\$806,000 for workshops, postdocs, graduate studentships and seed funding.

Templeton Foundation Planning Grant "Philosophy and Religion Engaged with the Public" (2018-2019)

\$234,000 for workshops and research.

NEH Summer Institute for College and University Faculty (2017-2018)

\$137,045 for Institute on Reviving Philosophy as a Way of Life.

Co-PIs: Steve Angle (Wesleyan), and Stephen Grimm (Fordham)

Immortality Project Grant, UC Riverside (2014-2015)

\$75,000 grant funding the Time Bias and Immortality Project.

New Agendas in Philosophy of Time Grant, University of Sydney (2014-2015)

\$10,000 grant funding research and travel for project on temporal discounting.

Nature of Faith Project Grant, Baylor University (2014)

\$4,000 grant funding research on diachronic rationality and faith.

Henkels Large Grant, ISLA Notre Dame (2012-2013)

\$9,600 funding the second Midwest Annual Workshop in Metaphysics (Sep 2013).

Perceptual, Religious and Moral Skepticism Project, Purdue University (2011)

\$5,000 grant that funded the research for “The Semantic Problem of Hiddenness”.

## Selected Colloquia, Invited Lectures and Conference Talks

### **2020 (scheduled)**

Worship and the Human Conference, Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Workshop on Ethics and Metaphysics, College of William and Mary

Plenary Speaker: New Currents in Teaching Philosophy, Council of Independent Colleges

Keynote: SCP Eastern Conference: Philosophy and the Public Sphere, USF

### **2019 (scheduled)**

Oxford Philosophy Colloquium (Jowett Society)

Cambridge University Moral Sciences Club

Ethical Inquiry Lecture, Brown University

Renard Lecture, Creighton University

Keynote: International Association of Philosophy of Time Conference, UC Boulder

Pedagogy of the Good Life Workshop, Yale and Pepperdine

George Fox University Philosophy Lecture

University of Wisconsin Milwaukee Philosophy Colloquium

Apocalypse Now: Time, Ethics and Eschatology Seminar, Harvard-Radcliffe Institute of Advanced Study

Wheaton College Philosophy Colloquium

Distinguished Woman Faculty Visitor: Purdue Philosophy Department

Philosophy as a Way of Life Symposium, North American Association for Philosophy and Education

Author Meets Critics on Aspiration (Agnes Callard), North American Association for Philosophy and Education

Valparaiso Philosophy Colloquium

### **2018**

Abduction and Modeling in Metaphysics, University of Dusseldorf

Newman Lecture: University Church Dublin

Plenary Speaker, ACPA San Diego: Philosophy, Catholicism and Public Life

Hesburgh Lecture, King’s College, Wilkes Barre PA

Mt Holyoke Philosophy Colloquium

2018 Distinguished Lecture, Weber State University Philosophy Department

SWIP Analytic Lecture, CUNY New York

Cognition, Brain, and Behavior Study Group, Notre Dame Psychology Department

Pontifical Universidad Catolica de Chile

OSU/Maribor/Rijeka Philosophy Conference: Value, Dubrovnik  
Boise State University Philosophy Colloquium  
Layman Lecture, Seattle Pacific University  
University of Chicago, Practical Philosophy Workshop  
Keynote: Texas Tech Grad Conference  
Time and the Observer Conference UCSD  
Author Meets Critics Session: What Makes Time Special? (Craig Callendar), Pacific APA  
Washington University-St Louis Philosophy Colloquium  
Temporal Asymmetries in Philosophy and Psychology Conference, University of Warwick  
Analytic Theology Seminar Series Lecture, Fuller Seminary

**2017**

University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Philosophy Colloquium  
SPAWN Conference-First Order Metaphysics, Syracuse University  
Open Future Workshop, University of Milan  
Time in the History of Metaphysics Conference, University of Toronto  
Transformative Experience Pre-Conference, Pacific APA  
Desert Philosophy Workshop, Moab Utah  
Georgetown Philosophy Department Colloquium  
University of St. Thomas Philosophy Colloquium  
Aquinas Lecture, Borromeo Seminary, Diocese of Cleveland  
California Metaphysics Workshop, USC  
Author Meets Critics Session: The Moving Spotlight (Ross Cameron), Eastern APA

**2016**

Time and Religion Conference, University of Cambridge  
Workshop on Existence, Uppsala University  
Institute for the Study of Markets and Ethics, McDonough School of Business, Georgetown University  
University of Alaska Anchorage Department Colloquium  
Columbia Philosophy Department Colloquium  
Truth in the Liberal Arts: Providence College Symposium, Providence College  
Workshop on Logical Space, UNAM Mexico City  
Orange Beach Epistemology Workshop, Orange Beach AL  
Keynote: Gateway Graduate Conference, UMSL St Louis  
Henle Conference on Nature of Necessity, St Louis  
Author Meets Critics Session: Modality and Explanatory Reasoning (Boris Kment), Pacific APA  
Princeton Philosophy Department Colloquium  
Author Meets Critics Session: Objective Becoming (Brad Skow), Central APA  
Keynote: Southern Appalachian Undergraduate Philosophy Conference, UNC-Asheville  
Notre Dame Law School Lunch Colloquium

SCP Group Session, Eastern APA

**2015**

Iris Einheuser Memorial Lecture, Duke Philosophy Department

University of Utah Philosophy Department Colloquium

Theism: An Axiological Investigation Conference, Ryerson University

Rutgers Philosophy of Religion Workshop

CEU Summer School on Ontology, Budapest (One of five lecturers for two week summer master-class)

The Future of the Study of Time Multidisciplinary Conference, Grindavik Iceland

Temporal Experience and Transformation Conference, University of Sydney

Immortality Project Capstone Conference, UC Riverside

University of Vermont Philosophy Department Colloquium

PERSP Metaphysics Seminar, University of Barcelona

University of Manitoba Philosophy Department Colloquium

Keynote: SCP Midwest Conference, Spring Hill College

Australian National University Philosophy Department Colloquium

Centre for Time, University of Sydney

Lingnan University Philosophy Department Colloquium

Hong Kong University Philosophy Department Colloquium

Syracuse University Philosophy Department Colloquium

Nanyang Technological University Philosophy Department Colloquium

National University of Singapore Philosophy Department Colloquium

**2014**

Invited Session on Philosophy of Time, Eastern APA

University of Arizona Philosophy Department

Keynote: University of Iowa Graduate Conference

UC Irvine Philosophy Department Colloquium

Bogaziçi University Philosophy Department Colloquia

Plenary Address: Randomness and Foreknowledge Conference

Hope College Colloquium

Workshop on Logical and Modal Space, NYU

SCP Group Session, Pacific APA

Albertus Magnus Lecture, Niagara University

MIT Philosophy Department Colloquium

INPC: Metaphysics on the Mountain, Sun Valley Idaho

University of Virginia Philosophy Department

**2013**

PERSP Workshop on As and Bs of Philosophy of Time, Barcelona

Jowett Society, Oxford University Philosophy Faculty

Leeds Philosophy Department  
Birmingham-Nottingham Philosophy of Time Workshop, University of Birmingham  
Keynote Address, Northwest Student Philosophy Conference  
Theoretical Virtues in Metaphysics Conference, Western Michigan University

**2012**

Rutgers 30th Anniversary Conference  
BGND Philosophy of Religion Conference, San Antonio  
ETS Session on Theology without Metaphysics, Milwaukee WI  
NIU Philosophy Department Colloquium  
Toronto Philosophy Department (Metaphysics and Epistemology Group)  
Carolina Metaphysics Workshop, Duck NC  
Meiguo Metaphysics Workshop, Peking University  
Aquinas Forum Lecture, Siena Heights University

**2011**

PERSP Space and Time Workshop on the Open Future, Barcelona  
Calvin College Philosophy Department Colloquium  
BGND Philosophy of Religion Conference, Georgetown University  
Bellingham Summer Philosophy Conference, WWU

**2010**

Notre Dame Philosophy Department Colloquium  
Princeton Seminary Philosophy Colloquium  
SCP Satellite Session-ACPA 2010, Baltimore  
UT-Austin/Baylor Philosophy of Religion Conference, UT-Austin  
Evolution and Ethics Conference, Peking University

## Seminar Presentations and Philosophical Talks for General Audiences

Meriwether-Lewis Leadership Program Keynote, University of Virginia, July 2019  
Center for Christianity and Scholarship and Kenan Institute for Ethics, Duke, Apr 2019  
Humanities Education for a Global Area, China Forum for Civilizational Dialogue, USF Ricci Institute/Georgetown, Aug 2018

### The Veritas Forum

Series of public keynote lectures on rationality and religious faith at Middlebury College, Mt. Holyoke, Boston College, University of Alaska Anchorage, Montana Tech, UNLV, Whitman College, University of Chicago, Colorado State University, and MIT. Keynote Speaker for the 2018 and 2019 Augustine Collective conferences for undergraduate students.

### Notre Dame Alumni Clubs

Speaker for ND Clubs: London Global Gateway, Cedar Rapids IA, Hanover Township PA, Charleston SC

Templeton Prize Ceremony Speaker (Laureate: Alvin Plantinga), Sep 2017  
 Brown University SIPP Program Conference, July 2016.  
 University of Utah: Modal Logic and Metaphysics Graduate Seminar, Oct 2015.  
 Yale-NUS Philosophy Rector's Tea Talk, Jan 2015  
 University of Alabama-Birmingham, Oct 2014  
 Philosophy of Language Capstone Course, Hope College, Sep 2014  
 Rutgers Summer Institute for Diversity in Philosophy, July 2013  
 Time, Truth, and Fate Course (Joint Session with Kris McDaniel), Dartmouth, May 2013  
 Realism, Objectivity and Metaphysics Course (Joint Session with Kris McDaniel), Dartmouth, May 2013

## Honors, Awards, & Fellowships

Rutgers Presidential Fellowship, Top University-Wide Graduate Merit Fellowship, 2007-2009  
 Rhodes Scholarship (Virginia & Balliol), 2005-2007  
 Jefferson Scholarship, Full Undergraduate Merit Scholarship to University of Virginia, 2001-2005  
 Phi Beta Kappa, University of Virginia, 2005  
 Lewis Hammond Award for Best Philosophy Thesis, University of Virginia, 2005  
 Raven Award for Outstanding Scholarship and Leadership, University of Virginia, 2005

## Service to the Profession

### *Editorial Boards*

Co-Editor for Philosophy of Religion Portfolio, Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy, 2016-Present  
 Board of Editorial Consultants for *American Philosophical Quarterly*, 2017-Present  
 Board of Editorial Consultants for *Faith and Philosophy*, 2018-Present

### *Professional Committees and Panels*

Mellon Foundation New Directions Fellowship Panel, 2018, 2019  
 Advisory Committee: US-British China Summer School in Philosophy 2018-Present  
 APA Nominating Committee - Central Division, 2017-2018  
 SCP Executive Committee, 2016-2019  
 SCP Investment Committee, 2017-2018  
 APA Standing Committee on the Status and Future of the Profession, 2014-2017  
 SCP Diversity Committee, 2014-2017  
 APA Program Committee: Central Division, 2014

### *Conference Organization*

PREP: Philosophy and Religion Engaged with the Public, June 2019  
 Mellon Network: Philosophy as a Way of Life, June 2019, June 2020, June 2021  
 With Stephen Grimm (Fordham) and Steve Angle (Wesleyan)



NEH Institute: Reviving Philosophy as a Way of Life, July 2018

With Stephen Grimm (Fordham) and Steve Angle (Wesleyan)

The Ethical Time Traveller Book Workshop, Notre Dame, May 2018

Workshop for Christian Women Philosophers, San Diego, Mar 2018

Time Bias and Future Planning Workshop, Vancouver BC, Apr 2015

With Preston Greene (NTU)

Co-Founder, Midwest Annual Workshops in Metaphysics, 2011-2015

With Jonathan Jacobs (SLU) and Timothy Pawl (St. Thomas)

Local Host, MAWM 2013 at Notre Dame, funded with Large Henkels grant from ISLA (Notre Dame)

Co-Organizer, Northwest Time and Rationality Workshop, Leavenworth WA, Apr 2012

With Lara Buchak (Berkeley) and Tom Dougherty (Sydney)

## University-Level Service

Provost's Learning Initiative, 2018-Present

Arts and Letters Dean Search Committee - Elected Member, 2017

College Council, 2017-2020

Laetare Medal Committee, 2017-2020

Provost's Ad Hoc Committee on Academic Advising, 2017-2018

University Committee on the First Year of Studies, 2016-Present

Faculty Advisory Committee, Center for Ethics and Culture, 2017-Present

Rhodes/Marshall/Mitchell/Gates Nomination Committee, Notre Dame, Fall 2011-Present

Leadership 2000 Closing Speaker, University of Virginia, Summer 2016

Jefferson Fellows Selection Committee, Jefferson Scholar Foundation, University of Virginia, Spring 2016

Notre Dame Institute for Advanced Study Philosophy Review Committee, Fall 2015

Hesburgh-Yusko Scholarship Selection Committee, Spring 2013, Spring 2014

Keynote Speaker, University Honor Convocation, University of Virginia, Aug 2013

Head Graduate Mentor, Bunting-Cobb Program, Rutgers, Fall 2007- Spring 2011

Supervised all aspects of academic programming, tutoring and mentoring in dorm for 100 undergraduate women pursuing math, science and engineering

Rhodes and Marshall Scholarship Practice Interviewer, Rutgers, 2007- 2011

Kickoff Speaker, Campaign for the University of Virginia, Sep 2006

Keynote Speaker, UVa President's Retreat, Mar 2005

## Department-Level Service

Committee on Appointments and Promotions, 2016-2019

Full Professor Committee, 2018-2019

Ethics Professor Search Committee, 2016-2017

Director of Initiative to Develop GGL Curriculum, 2015-2016

Graduate Committee, 2012-2014, 2015-2016, 2017-2019  
 Departmental Climate Committee, 2013-2014  
 Graduate Admissions Committee, 2012-2013  
 Assistant Professor Search Committee, 2012-2013

## Teaching

### *University of Notre Dame-Undergraduate Courses*

God and the Good Life: Large Lecture Introduction to Philosophy  
 Summer (2016—Online Pilot), Fall 2016, Spring 2017, Fall 2017, Spring 2018, Fall 2018 (double section), Fall 2019 (double section)

The Examined Life Seminar  
 Spring 2017, Fall 2017

The Good Class: Exploratory Seminar on the Philosophy and Production of The Good Place  
 Fall 2019 (scheduled)

Team Taught with Christine Becker and Richard Herbst (Film, Television and Theater)

Introduction to Philosophy—Large Lecture Version  
 Spring 2013, Fall 2013, Fall 2015

College Seminar- Experiencing Time. (Interdisciplinary seminar for sophomores in Arts and Letters)  
 Spring 2013, Spring 2014

Honors Intro Philosophy Seminar  
 Fall 2011, Fall 2012

Metaphysics Seminar for Majors  
 Fall 2011

Directed Readings  
 Rational Belief and Scientific Paradigms (Spring 2018)  
 Analytic Theology and Ecclesiology (Spring 2018)

### *University of Notre Dame-Graduate Courses*

Philosophy Teaching Practicum  
 Fall 2016, Spring 2017, Fall 2017, Spring 2018, Fall 2018, Spring 2019

Diachronic Rationality and Personal Persistence  
 Spring 2016

Alternative Theories of Modality (team-taught with Sam Newlands)  
 Spring 2014

Proseminar: 20th Century Metaphysics, Language, and Epistemology  
 Fall 2012, Fall 2013

Time in Metaphysics and Logic  
 Spring 2012

Directed Readings  
 Necessitism, Permanentism and the Metaphysics of Modal Logic (Fall 2018)

*Rutgers University-Undergraduate Courses*

Applied Symbolic Logic-Metalogic and Modal Logic

Fall 2010

Introduction to Symbolic Logic

Spring 2010, Summer 2010, and Spring 2011

Current Moral and Social Issues

Summer 2008

Co-Organizer, Metaphysics and Religion Reading Group (with Dean Zimmerman), Fall 2007-Spring 2011

## Advising

Dissertation Director: Ting Lau (ABD Fall 2017), Ross Jensen

Dissertation Committee Member (Internal): Kenny Boyce (PhD Summer 2013–Univ. Missouri (TT)), Brad Rettler (PhD Fall 2013–Univ. Wyoming (TT)), Amy Seymour (PhD Fall 2015–Fordham (TT)), Peter Finocchiaro (PhD Fall 2016–Wuhan (TT)), Rebecca Chan (PhD Spring 2017–San Jose State (TT)), Jeff Snapper (PhD Summer 2017), Ben Rossi (PhD Summer 2017), David Pattillo (PhD Summer 2017), Matt Getz (ABD Spring 2013), Michael Longenecker (PhD Spring 2018), Callie Phillips (PhD Summer 2018); Paul Blaschko (PhD Summer 2018–Mellon Postdoc) Mark Puestohl (ABD Spring 2017)

Dissertation Committee Member (External): Jason Cather (PhD 2017, University of Chicago Divinity School)

Oral Exam Committee Director: Peter Finocchiaro, Mark Puestohl, Ting Lau, Ross Jensen

Undergraduate Thesis Director: Grace Watkins (Philosophy) (BA 2017), Matthew Rehagan (Theology/Philosophy, co-director) (BA 2018), Teresa Kaza (Theology/Philosophy) (BA 2019), Cole Edwards (Philosophy/Neuroscience), Devin Dettman (Philosophy/Theology)

Undergraduate Research Supervisor: Samuel Kennedy, Lihao Yan, Conrad Palor, Julia French, Melissa Fenner, Noelle Johnson, Todd DeRose, Daniel Kokotajlo

Last updated: May 15, 2019