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**Dissertation**

*On The Nature of Health and Disease*

I defend the view that health and disease are best understood in terms of biological functioning. I argue against the view that health and disease are evaluative concepts like justice, moral goodness or prudential goodness. Naturalism is superior to normativism because controversies about functional ascriptions are more easily resolved than controversies about moral and prudential judgments.

Committee: Dan Haybron (advisor), Jeffrey Bishop, Kent Staley, James Stacey Taylor (ext)

**Education**

----- Ph.D. Saint Louis University (anticipated graduation spring 2018)

2012 M.A. Philosophy, University of Missouri – St. Louis

2006 B.A. Philosophy, Occidental College

**AOS:** Bioethics, ethics

**AOC:** Philosophy of science

**Publications**

‘The Irrelevance of Harm for a Theory of Disease,’ co-authored with James Stacey Taylor. *Journal of Medicine and Philosophy* (conditional acceptance, June 2017)

**Articles Under Review**

‘How Not to Measure the Value of Health’

‘A Qualified Defense of The Biostatistical Theory’

**Works in Progress**

‘Can Mental Illness be Good for You?’

‘Why Humeans Are Not Out of Their Minds’

**Presentations**

‘On the Irrelevance of Harm for a Theory of Disease’

2018, Eastern American Philosophical Association (poster)

2017, Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress, Boulder Co. (poster)
2017, Institute for Humane Studies Graduate Workshop, Baltimore MD.

‘A Qualified Defense of The Biostatistical Theory’

2017, St. Louis Area Philosophy of Science Association

‘Can Mental Illness be Good for You?’

2017, Occidental College Philosophy Department (invited talk)

‘How Not to Measure the Value of Health’

2016, Western Michigan Medical Humanities Conference

‘Kant on Moral Evil’

2016, Pacific American Philosophical Association Poster Presentation

2015, Iowa Philosophic Society

**Academic Awards**

Institute for Humane Studies Co-Authorship Grant, with Dr. James Stacey Taylor, 2016-2017.

**Presented Comments**

Comments on Joel Velasco’s ‘Metanormative Practical-Point-of-View Constructivism’, Central APA 2018

Comments on Jonathan Spelman’s ‘Moral Obligations and Punishment’*,* Central States Philosophy Association, 2017

Comments on Mark Berger’s ‘Throwing Your Vote Away: The Normative Grounding of Third Party and Protest Voting’*,* Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress, 2017

Comments on George Khusf’s ‘How far can formal analysis reach when interpreting medical concepts?’, International Academy for Bioethical Inquiry, 2017

**Teaching**

As Instructor:

 *Medical Ethics*

 Saint Louis University, Spring 2017

 *Ethics*

 Saint Louis University, Fall 2017

 Jefferson Community College, Spring 2010, Spring 2011, Spring 2012

 South Western Illinois Community College, Fall 2010, Spring 2010

 *Logic*

Jefferson Community College, Spring 2010, Spring 2011, Spring 2012
 East St. Louis Community College, Spring 2011

 *Logic & Language* (honors course)

 University of Missouri – St. Louis Spring 2008, Fall 2008, Spring 2009

 *Introduction to Philosophy*

 Saint Louis University, Fall/Spring 2013, Fall/Spring 2014

 Jefferson Community College, Fall 2010, Spring 2011, Spring 2012, Fall 2012

**Teaching Training & Related Skills**

Online Course Design Certificate **–** Completed course in online instruction & curriculum design at Jefferson College.

Studied Teaching Writing Skills **-** Completed15 graduate credit-hours in English and writing-related courses at University of Missouri – St. Louis in 2012.

**Service**

SLU Graduate Student Association Representative. 2014- 2015.

SLU Philosophy Graduate Student Association, Board of Officers; Scribe. 2015-2017.

SLU Philosophy Graduate Student Conference, Paper Reviewer 2014 – 2016.