

LI KANG, PH.D.

Department of Philosophy | Washington and Lee University

Lexington, VA 24450 | United States

Email: lkang@wlu.edu

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION AND COMPETENCE

AoS: Metaphysics, Buddhist Philosophy

AoC: Chinese Philosophy, Philosophy of Science, Logic

EMPLOYMENT

Assistant Professor of Philosophy, Washington and Lee University, from July 2019.

Visiting Assistant Professor of Philosophy, Vassar College, 2017 – 2019.

EDUCATION

PhD, Philosophy, Syracuse University, USA, August 2017.

Dissertation: *Spreading Structures*, Chair: Kris McDaniel.

MPhil, Philosophy, University of St Andrews, UK, June 2011.

Thesis: *Coincidence and Modality*, Primary Supervisor: Katherine Hawley.

BA, Philosophy, Wuhan University, China, June 2008.

WORK IN PROGRESS

“The Relative Identity of All Objects: Tiantai Buddhism Meets Analytic Metaphysics” (R&R, *Philosophers’ Imprint*)

“The Interdependence of All Things: A Contemporary Construct of Huayan Buddhism”

“The Interdependence of All Things and Degrees of Dependence”

“How to Be Free from Oneself: Lessons from Chan Buddhism”

“Scientific Properties: Identity and Symmetry”

“Grounding, Meet Structuralism!”

GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS

Insight Development Grant, “Social Ontology in Early Confucian Philosophy”, collaborator with Jennifer Wang, The Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC), Canada, 2021 – 2023.

Lenfest Summer Research Grant, Washington and Lee University, 2020, 2021.

College Mini Grant for Course Enhancement, Washington and Lee University, Fall 2020.

Humanities Center Dissertation Fellowship, Syracuse University, 2015 - 2016.

Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award, Syracuse University, 2015.

PRESENTATIONS (*Refereed)

“How to Be Free from Oneself: Lessons from Chan Buddhism”

The 2021 Annual Midwest Conference on Chinese Thought, Wright State University, Dayton, OH, May 2021.

Princeton-Rutgers Philosophy of Religion Incubator Conference, Princeton University, New Brunswick, NJ, USA, May 2021.

“The Relative Identity of All Objects: Tiantai Buddhism Meets Analytic Metaphysics” (*Under different titles*)

Persistence of Goodness: A Celebration of Katherine Hawley, Zoom, June 2021.

Women in Metaphysics (WiM) Research Network Summer Workshop Series, Zoom, June 2020.

The Fourth Rutgers Workshop on Chinese Philosophy, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ, USA, April 2018.*

“The Interdependence of All Things and Degree of Dependence” (*Under different titles*)

Women in Metaphysics (WiM) Research Network Fall Workshop Series, Zoom, September 2020.

Mount Holyoke Summer Philosophy Conference, Mount Holyoke College, South Hadley, MA, USA, June 2020.* (*Conference cancelled due to Covid-19*)

The 2019 Mentoring Workshop for Pre-Tenure Women in Philosophy, Boston University, Boston, MA, USA, June 2019.*

Early Career Metaphysics Workshop, Lehigh University, Bethlehem, USA, April 2019.

Colloquium, APA Pacific Division, Seattle, USA, April 2017.*

Graduate Women in Metaphysics Workshop, Northampton, MA, USA, May 2016.*

The Humanities Center, Syracuse University, USA, January 2016.

“Hey Grounding, Meet Structuralism!”

The Metaphysics and Epistemology of Grounding and Fundamentality Conference, CUNY, USA, December 2015.*

The Dutch Research School of Philosophy (OZSW) Graduate Conference in Theoretical Philosophy, VU University Amsterdam, Netherlands, May 2014.*

Hyper-Intensionality Workshop. Syracuse University, USA, November 2013.

“In Defense of Nomic Structuralism”

The First Annual Conference of the Society for the Metaphysics of Science, Rutgers University, Newark, USA, September 2015.*

Arché Philosophical Research Centre, University of St Andrews, UK, June 2015.

Women in Metaphysics Workshop, Rochester, Vermont, USA, May 2013.

“Yet Another Attempt at Grounding Modality”

Postgraduate Session, The Joint Session of the Aristotelian Society and the Mind Association, Dublin, Ireland, July 2010.*

“Contrastive Dispositions”

A.H.R.C Metaphysics of Science Project Conference, Nottingham, UK, September 2009.*

COMMENTS

Comments on Raul Saucedo, “Nirvana: Unconditioned Awareness as a Transformative Experience?”

Transformative Experience Pre-conference, APA Pacific Division, Seattle, USA, April 2017.

Comments on Jennifer Wang, “Fundamentality and Modal Freedom”

Midsummer Philosophy Conference, Edinburgh, UK, June 2015.

Comments on Scott Dixon, “Grounding, Determinables, and Supplementation”

APA Central Division, St. Louis, USA, February 2015.

Comments on David Sanson, “Worlds Enough for Junk”

Western Canadian Philosophical Association Conference, Winnipeg, Canada, October 2013.

VISITING ACTIVITIES & WORKSHOPS

Participant, The Mellon Philosophy as a Way of Life Network. University of Notre Dame, 2019 – 2021.

Participant, The Mentoring Workshop for Pre-Tenure Women in Philosophy, Boston University, 2019.

Session Chair, Vancouver Summer Philosophy Conference, University of British Columbia, 2016.

Session Chair, Bellingham Summer Philosophy Conference, Western Washington University, 2015.

Visiting Student, Arché Philosophical Research Centre, University of St Andrews, UK, Summer 2015.

Participant, Metaphysical Mayhem Summer Seminar, Rutgers University, USA, 2014.

Participant, Truthmaker Semantics Summer Seminar by Kit Fine, Hamburg University, Germany, 2013.

Participant, Meaning, Context, and Intention Summer Seminar, Central European University, Hungary, 2010.

TEACHING

As Instructor

Washington and Lee University

Introduction to Theories of Knowledge and Reality (Fall 2019, Winter 2020, Fall 2020, Winter 2021, Fall 2021)

Chinese Buddhist Philosophy (Fall 2019)

Classical Chinese Philosophy (Winter 2020)

Metaphysics: Existence and Reality (Fall 2020, Fall 2021)

Buddhist Philosophy (Winter 2021)

An Investigation of Self (Spring 2021)

Vassar College

Knowledge and Reality (Spring 2018)

Early Chinese Philosophy (Fall 2017, Fall 2018)

Introduction to Zen: Literature and Culture (Fall 2017)

Introduction to Chinese and Japanese Literature (Fall 2018)

Philosophy as a Way of Life (Spring 2019)

Metaphysics (Spring 2018, Spring 2019)

Mahayana Buddhism (Spring 2018)

Classical Chinese (Spring 2019)

Syracuse University

Introduction to Philosophy for Honors (Spring 2017)

Theories of Knowledge and Reality (Fall 2013, Spring 2014, Fall 2014, Spring 2017)

Introduction to Moral Theory (Spring 2015, Fall 2016)

As Teaching Assistant

Syracuse University

Introduction to Moral Theory (Sam Gorovitz, Fall 2012; Ben Bradley, Spring 2013)

Theories of Knowledge and Reality (Mark Heller, Spring 2012)

Logic (Kelly McCormick, Fall 2011)

As Guest Speaker

“Interdependent Origin and Emptiness”, Introduction to East Asian Philosophy (Wenqing Zhao, Whitman College, March 2018)

“Chinese Buddhism”, Introduction to Chinese Philosophy (Jennifer Wang, Stanford University, June 2017)

“Huayan Buddhism”, Non-western Metaphysics (Jessica Wilson, University of Toronto, March 2017)

DEPARTMENT AND UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Committee Member, Assistant Professor of Philosophy Search Committee (Fall 2021 - Winter 2022)

Committee Member, Student Financial Aid Committee, Washington and Lee University, 2020 - 2025.

Co-organizer (with Nathaniel Goldberg), Indian Philosophy Reading Group, Washington and Lee University, Summer 2020.

Committee Member, Graduate Student Conference Internal Speaker Committee, Department of Philosophy, Syracuse University, 2015.

Committee Member, Graduate Student Conference External Speaker Committee, Department of Philosophy, Syracuse University, 2014.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Journal Referee, *Analysis*.

Co-organizer (with Maegan Fairchild), Women in Metaphysics (WiM) Research Network Fall Workshop Series, 2020.

Organizer, Women in Metaphysics (WiM) Research Network Summer Workshop Series, 2020.

Assistant Organizer, California Metaphysics Conference, University of Southern California, 2013 – 2015.

LANGUAGES

Chinese Mandarin (Native), Classical Chinese

REFERENCES

Research References:

Kris McDaniel, kmcdani1@nd.edu

Professor of Philosophy, University of Notre Dame

Mark Heller, heller@syr.edu

Professor of Philosophy, Syracuse University

Shamik Dasgupta, shamikd@berkeley.edu
Associate Professor of Philosophy, University of California, Berkeley

Jessica M. Wilson, jessica.m.wilson@utoronto.ca
Professor of Philosophy, University of Toronto

Teaching References:

Jeff Seidman, jeseidman@vassar.edu
Associate Professor of Philosophy, Vassar College

J.L. Dowell, dowelljanice@gmail.com
Professor of Philosophy, Syracuse University