

Melina Constantine Bell

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EDUCATION

University of Pennsylvania Ph.D. Philosophy	May 2005
Tufts University M.A. Philosophy	May 1999
Boston University School of Public Health M.P.H. (Master of Public Health)	January 1995
Boston University School of Law J.D. <i>cum laude</i> <i>American Journal of Law & Medicine</i> ASLME Developments Editor Symposium Coordinator 1992-1993	May 1994
Hofstra University B.A. Philosophy, <i>magna cum laude</i>	December 1990

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Washington and Lee University Professor of Philosophy	2017-
Professor of Law (by Courtesy)	2017-
Faculty Affiliate, Shepherd Program for the Interdisciplinary Study of Poverty and Human Capability	2006-
Core Faculty, Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies Program	2005-
Associate Professor of Law (by Courtesy)	2015-2017
Associate Professor of Philosophy	2011-2017
Lecturer in Philosophy and Law	2011-2015
Assistant Professor of Philosophy	2005-2011
University of Pennsylvania Philosophy, Politics and Economics Graduate Advisor	2005
Graduate Instructor	2002-2004
Graduate Teaching Assistant	2000-2004
Tufts University Graduate Teaching Assistant	1998-1999

LEGAL WORK EXPERIENCE

Shapiro & Associates , Boston, MA Associate Attorney	1997–1998
Hutchins, Wheeler & Dittmar, P.C. , Boston, MA Associate Attorney	1995–1997
Massachusetts Board of Registration in Medicine , Boston, MA Summer Legal Intern	1993
Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination , Boston, MA Summer Legal Intern	1992

PUBLICATIONS

“*Citizens United*, Liberty, and John Stuart Mill.” *Notre Dame Journal of Law, Ethics & Public Policy* 30 (Online Supplement, 2016): 1-23.

“Gender Essentialism and American Law: Why and How to Sever the Connection.” *Duke Journal of Gender, Law & Policy* 23 (2016): 163-221.

“Children Are People: Liberty, Opportunity, and Just Parenthood.” *Review Journal of Political Philosophy* 9.1 (2012): 49-86.

“Is Women’s Bodybuilding Unfeminine?” In *Philosophical Reflections on Physical Strength: Does a Strong Mind Need a Strong Body?*, edited by Mark A. Holowchak and Terry Todd, 179-198. Edwin Mellon Press, 2010.

“Valuing All Families.” *Law, Culture and the Humanities* 5 (2009): 288-316.

“Strength in Muscle and Beauty in Integrity: Building a Body for Her.” *Journal of the Philosophy of Sport* 35 (2008): 43-62.

“Regulating Transfer and Use of Fetal Tissue in Transplantation Procedures: The Ethical Dimensions.” *American Journal of Law & Medicine* 20 (1994): 277-294.

WORK UNDER REVIEW

“What’s Wrong with Hooking Up in College?”

PRESENTATIONS

Refereed Conference Presentations

“Gender Essentialism and American Law: Why and How to Sever the Connection,” *Duke Journal of Gender, Law & Policy* Annual Symposium: Gender Identity and Sexuality after *Obergefell*, Duke University School of Law, March 3, 2016.

“Is Sexual Promiscuity Morally Wrong? College ‘Hook-Up’ Culture and Double Standards,” Midwest U.S. Society for Women in Philosophy Annual Meeting, Washington College, October 9-11, 2015.

“*Citizens United*, Freedom, and John Stuart Mill,” Virginia Philosophical Association Annual Meeting, Washington and Lee University, November 7-8, 2014.

“Sex Essentialism and American Law,” Canadian Society for Women in Philosophy, University of Waterloo, August 10-13, 2014.

“Liberty, Equal Opportunity, and Justice Between Generations,” Association for the Study of Law, Culture and the Humanities, University of California at Berkeley, March 28-29, 2008.

“Liberty, Opportunity and Capacity: A Critique of the Lexical Priority of Rawls’s First Principle,” Association for the Study of Law, Culture and the Humanities, Georgetown University Law Center, March 23-24, 2007.

“Strength in Muscle and Beauty in Integrity: Building a Body for Her,” Associated Colleges of the South Women’s/Gender Studies Conference, Centenary College, March 24-25, 2006.

“Perpetuating Patriarchy: The Public Promotion of Traditional Marriage-Based Family”

- University of Pennsylvania Graduate Humanities Forum, March 27, 2004.
- Association for the Study of Law, Culture and the Humanities, University of Connecticut, March 12, 2004.
- Geis Student Research on Women Conference, University of Delaware, March 8, 2003. Second Place, Graduate Division, Geis Conference Paper Competition.

“Multiculturalism and Freedom from Unfair Class-Based Discrimination,” Association for the Study of Law, Culture and the Humanities, University of Pennsylvania Law School, March 9, 2002.

Invited Presentations

“Gender Essentialism and American Law: Why and How to Sever the Connection,” Frances Lewis Law Center Faculty Workshop, Washington and Lee University School of Law, February 27, 2017.

"Lack of Female Participation in the Political Process," Lara D. Gass Women in the Law Symposium Panelist, Washington and Lee University School of Law, September 23, 2016.

"Gender Essentialism and American Law," Phi Sigma Tau Honor Society induction address, Washington and Lee University, March 8, 2016.

Comment, Shelley Wilcox, "Unlocking Global Care Chains: Toward a Promising Feminist Approach to Immigration Justice," Mudd Center Ethics of Immigration Conference, Washington and Lee University, November 6-7, 2015.

"A Moral Defense of Promiscuous Sex," Sexual Health Awareness Group, Washington and Lee University, March 23, 2015.

"Erotic Dominance and Submission: Does What Happens in the Bedroom Stay in the Bedroom?" Sexual Health Awareness Group, Washington and Lee University, March 15, 2014.

"Sex Essentialism and American Law," Women and Gender Studies Colloquium, Washington and Lee University, February 12, 2014.

"'Good Character Leads to a Flourishing Life': What Does this Mean to Me?" lecture and discussion for graduating seniors, The Tatnall School, Wilmington, Delaware, May 31, 2013.

"Child-free by Choice," guest presentation in Wendy Orrison's spring term Women's Health class, May 10, 2012.

"New Masculinity," Sigma Phi Epsilon dinner lecture, Washington and Lee University, January 31, 2012.

"The Equal Rights Amendment: Where It Stands and What It Would Do," Women's Law Student Organization, Washington and Lee University School of Law, March 15, 2011.

Comment, Tina Rulli, "Expanding the Circle of Concern: May We Prefer Our 'Own' Children?" Virginia Philosophical Association Annual Meeting, Marymount University, October 22-23, 2010.

"Is Human Flourishing Gendered?" Presentation and workshop offered jointly with Professor Wendy Orrison. Kappa Delta sorority, Washington and Lee University, November 8, 2009.

Comment, Simon Cabulea May, "Liberal Neutrality and Marriage Equality," Virginia Philosophical Association Annual Meeting, Roanoke College, October 24-25, 2008.

"Should Inheritance Be Abolished?" Southern Virginia University Philosophy Club, Friday, November 2, 2007.

"The Bad Boy, The Nice Guy: What Women Want," Knowledge Empowering Women Leaders Discussion Forum, Washington and Lee University, February 15, 2007.

"Be Comfortable in Your Genes" panelist, Washington and Lee University, March 13, 2006, sponsored by Panhellenic Council and LIFE (discussing Sylvia K. Blood's *Body Work: A Social Construction of Women's Body Image*).

"Strength in Muscle and Beauty in Integrity: Building a Body for Her," Women's Studies Lunch Colloquium, Washington and Lee University, February 22, 2006.

"John Rawls on Distributive Justice," guest lecture in Art Goldsmith's Interdepartmental 423, Poverty: A Research Seminar, Washington and Lee University, January 13, 2006.

"Feminist Activism in the Academy," Knowledge Empowering Women Leaders (KEWL) Student-Faculty Dinner, November 8, 2005.

Comment, Allen Thompson's "Neurathian Ethical Naturalism," Virginia Philosophical Association annual meeting at Virginia Wesleyan University, October 28-29, 2005.

"Rawls on Family and Education: The Limits of Political Liberalism," Dissertation Seminar, University of Pennsylvania Department of Philosophy, September 13, 2004.

"Martha Nussbaum on Objectification," University of Pennsylvania Graduate Humanities Forum, Friday, January 23, 2004.

"Reforming the Gendered Family: A Critique of Political Liberalism," Dissertation Seminar, University of Pennsylvania Department of Philosophy, November 17, 2003.

AWARDS AND HONORS

Washington and Lee University Lenfest Summer Fellowship (2009-2017)

Academic Life Course Development Grant from the Provost to develop a spring course. (2008)

Washington and Lee University John M. Glenn Summer Grants (2006-2008)

University Fellowship from the Graduate Division of Arts and Sciences at the University of Pennsylvania (1999-2004)

Edward F. Hennessey Distinguished Scholar; third-year law class rank 12/429

Paul J. Liacos Scholar; top 25% of second-year law class (1993)

Lawyers Cooperative Publishing Jurisprudence Award for Trial Advocacy (1993)

Phi Beta Kappa (Omega Chapter of New York, 1991)

REGULAR COURSES

Law 340: Jurisprudence
Philosophy 145: Contemporary Moral Problems
Philosophy 228: John Stuart Mill
Philosophy 242: Social Inequality and Fair Opportunity
Philosophy 244: Feminist Social and Political Philosophy
Philosophy 246: Philosophy of Sex
Philosophy 250: (Spring): Philosophies of Life
Philosophy 252: Philosophy of Law
Philosophy 254: Philosophy of the Family: Beyond Tradition
Philosophy 354: Distributive Justice
Philosophy 473/493: Senior/Honors Thesis Seminar
Women's and Gender Studies 120: Introduction to Feminist Theory
Women's and Gender Studies 180: Gender and Sport

TOPICAL SEMINARS

Philosophy 195: Honor Beyond the Classroom: The Philosophy of Honor
Philosophy 295: Honor Beyond the Classroom: The Philosophy of Honor
Philosophy 295A (Spring 2009): Utopia
Women's and Gender Studies 296A (Fall 2009): Sexual Assault Prevention
Workshop
Women's Studies 396 (capstone, Fall 2006): Marriage and Family

COMMITTEE WORK AND SERVICE

University

Shepherd Program Strategic Planning, Law-Related Learning Task Group, 2017-
Shepherd Poverty Program Tenure and Promotion Review Committee, 2016-
Virginia Foundation for Independent Colleges Ethics Bowl, W&L Advisor, 2015-
Pre-law Faculty Resource, 2014-
Women's and Gender Studies Advisory Committee, 2006-2011, 2013-
Initial Academic Advisor to Students, 2006-
Science, Society and the Arts Conference Committee, 2016-2017
Roger Mudd Center for Ethics Postdoctoral Search Committee, 2015
Decade Award Selection Committee, 2007-2008, 2015
Live Well W&L Ambassador, 2011-2014
Pre-law Advisor, 2010-2014
Women's Leadership Summit, 2010, 2012, & 2013
Chair, Ad Hoc Committee for a Course on Respect and Responsibility, 2010-2012
Violence Intervention Program, 2010-2012

University Athletic Committee, 2006-2012
Discrimination Policy Advisor, 2009-2011
Student-Faculty Hearing Board Review, 2009-2011
Student Financial Aid Committee, 2006-2011
Student Affairs Committee, 2007-2010
New Faculty Mentor, 2009-2010
University Ombuds Search Committee, 2009
Confidential and Impartial Resource (CAIR) Representative, 2006-2007

Department

Major and Minor Academic Advisor, 2006-
Philosophy Self-Study Committee, 2016-2018
Philosophy Tenure Track Hiring Committee, 2015-2016
Philosophy Tenure Review Committee, 2015-2016
Philosophy Department Senior Thesis Program Coordinator, 2013-2014
Philosophy Curriculum and Senior Program Development, 2009-2011
Philosophy Department Senior Thesis Program Coordinator, 2007-2011
Philosophy Tenure Track Hiring Committees, 2007 & 2008
SACS Accreditation Departmental Review, 2007
Philosophy Visiting Professor Hiring Committee, 2006

Profession

Virginia Philosophical Association Conference Paper Selection Committee, 2014

STUDENT ORGANIZATION ADVISING

Gender Action Group Advisor, 2016-
Gender Action Group Faculty Resource, 2014-2016
Faculty Advisor to LAUNCH, 2013-2015
Faculty Advisor to the W&L Moot Court Team, 2013-2015
Faculty Advisor to Campus Climate Initiative 2012-2013
Faculty Advisor to W&L Ballroom Dance Club, 2011-2012
Faculty Advisor to Generals Interested in Legal Studies, 2010-2014
Faculty Advisor to END IT, 2010-2012
Knowledge Empowering Women Leaders Mentoring Program, 2006-2007

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

American Philosophical Association
Virginia Philosophical Association
Society for Analytical Feminism
Association for the Study of Law, Culture and the Humanities
W&L Women Administrators and Faculty Group
Phi Beta Kappa, Gamma Chapter of Virginia