

CURRICULUM VITAE

KEITH MCKENDREE PARSONS

POSITION:

Associate Professor of Philosophy, University of Houston,
Clear Lake

EDUCATION:

Ph.D.--History and Philosophy of Science, The University
of Pittsburgh,
Pittsburgh, PA; 1996

Dissertation: *Wrongheaded Science? Rationality,
Constructivism, and Dinosaurs*; Supervisor: James Lennox

Ph.D.--Philosophy, Queen's University,
Kingston, Ontario, Canada; 1986

Dissertation: *Science, Confirmation, and the Theistic
Hypothesis*; Supervisor: C.G. Prado;

M.A.--Philosophy, Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA;
1982

Thesis: *Miracles and Christian Apologetics*; Supervisor:
James Humber

Master of Theological Studies--Emory University, Atlanta,
Georgia; 1981

B.A.--Religion and Philosophy, Berry College, Rome,
Georgia; 1974

**AREAS OF
SPECIALIZATION:**

Philosophy of Science; Philosophy of
Religion; History of Science

AREAS OF COMPETENCE:

Darwinism; History of Philosophy; Logic
and Critical Thinking

PUBLICATIONS:

Books:

Copernican Questions: A Concise Introduction to the Philosophy of Science McGraw-Hill, 2005 (forthcoming).

The Great Dinosaur Controversy: A Guide to the Debates. ABC-Clio Press, Santa Barbara, CA, December 2003.

The Science Wars: Debating Scientific Knowledge and Technology, an anthology of readings, Prometheus Books, Buffalo, NY, 2003.

Drawing Out Leviathan: Dinosaurs and the Science Wars. Indiana University Press, Bloomington, IN, 2001

Why I am not a Christian; Freethought Press, Atlanta, GA, 2000.

God and the Burden of Proof,
(Prometheus Books: Buffalo, NY, 1989); Foreword by Kai Nielsen.

Articles, Reviews, Book Chapters:

“Evil and the Unknown Purpose Defense: Remarks Addressed to Theodore Drange’s *Nonbelief and Evil*,” *Philo* (forthcoming, 2005).

“Toward a Postmodernist Paleontology?” coauthored with Peter Copeland, in *Academic Questions* vol. 17, #2 (Spring, 2004).

“Contemporary Theistic Arguments,” in *The Cambridge Companion to Atheism*, ed. M.L. Martin, Cambridge University Press (forthcoming; 2005).

Review essay on Susan Haack’s *Defending Science*, published by Prometheus Books; in *Philosophy of Science* (forthcoming; 2004).

“Defending the Radical Center,” chapter in *Scientific Values and Civic Virtues*, edited by Noretta Koertge, Oxford University Press (forthcoming; 2005)

“Peter Kreeft and Ronald Tacelli on the Hallucination Argument,” chapter in *Jesus is Dead*, edited by Robert Price and Jeffery Lowder, Prometheus Books (forthcoming; 2005).

Review of *Tower of Babel: The Evidence against the New Creationism*, by Rob Pennock, *The Journal of Scientific Exploration*, December 2003.

“The Universe is not Improbable; The Resurrection is” chapter in *Does God Exist? The Craig-Flew Debate*, Stan W. Wallace, editor, Ashgate 2003.

Review of *Intelligent Design Creationism and its Critics*, Robert T. Pennock, editor, *The Journal of Scientific Exploration* (Vol. 17, #1), pp. 139-143.

“Need Reasons be Causes? A Further Reply to Victor Reppert’s Argument from Reason” *Philosophia Christi*, vol. 5, #1 (2003).

“Scientific Civilization and its Discontents: Further Reflections on the Science Wars.” A review essay in *Philosophy of Science*, December 2002.

“Reformed Epistemology: An Atheist Perspective,” chapter in *God Matters*, edited by Raymond Martin and Christopher Bernard; Longman, 2002.

Review of *Can a Darwinian be a Christian?* By Michael Ruse, in *Philosophical Inquiry*, (Vol. XXIII, Summer-Fall, 2001, No. 3-4).

“Further Reflections on the Argument from Reason,” *Philo* (Vol. III, #1, pp. 90-102).

“Defending Objectivity,” article-length review of *The Last Word* by Thomas Nagel and *Objectivity: The Obligations of Impersonal Reason*, by Nicholas Rescher, *Philo* (Vol. II, #1, pp. 77-89).

"Lively Answers to Theists," article-length review of *Arguing for Atheism: An Introduction to the Philosophy of Religion*, by Robin Le Poidevin *Philo* (vol. I, #1, pp. 115-121).

"The Wrongheaded Dinosaur," *Carnegie Magazine*, November/December 1997.

Review of *Higher Superstition* by Paul Gross and Norman Levitt, *The Skeptical Inquirer*, March/April 1995.

"Is There a Case for Christian Theism?" chapter in *Does God Exist?* by J.P. Moreland and Kai Nielsen (Prometheus Books: Buffalo, NY, 1990).

Review of *Reason and the Radical Crisis of Faith* by Shabbir Akhtar, *Journal of Religion*, Spring, 1989.

Review of *Foundations of Religious Tolerance* by Jay Newman, *Queen's Quarterly*, Spring, 1984.

**PROFESSIONAL
ACTIVITIES:**

"Apparently Gratuitous Evil and the Unknown Purpose Defense: Remarks Addressed to Theodore Drange's *Nonbelief and Evil*," A paper delivered to the Society of Humanist Philosophers at the Pacific Division APA meeting, March 24, 2004.

Organizer of symposium "Debater's Toolbox;" Center for Inquiry, Amherst, NY; August 1-3, 2003.

Founding editor, *Philo*; Official Journal of the Society of Humanist Philosophers (1997-2000)

"Does God Exist?" A debate with Dr. William Lane Craig held before an audience of 3500 at Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana on February 4, 2002

"The World-Change that Wasn't: David Raup's 'Conversion' to the Impact Theory of Extinction," paper delivered at the Lunar and Planetary Institute Colloquium; Center for Advanced Space Studies; Houston, TX; September, 2000

"Disconnecting Disconnections," commentary delivered at colloquium on causation at the Western Division meeting of the American Philosophical Association, April, 2000

"Science and Religion," a lecture given at Berry College, Rome, GA, January, 2000; part of a series of lectures funded by the Templeton Foundation

"Does Scientific Reasoning Rest on a Mistake?" paper delivered to the Colloquium of the Lunar and Planetary Institute, Houston, TX, July 24, 1998

"Why I am/am not a Christian;" a debate with Dr. William Lane Craig, held before an audience of 4200 at Prestonwood Baptist Church, Dallas, TX, June 15, 1998

"Darwin vs. Gray. vs. Hodge, Or Will the Real Atheist Please Stand Up?"; paper delivered at a conference of the Society of Humanist Philosophers, the Center for Inquiry; Amherst, NY; Dec. 6, 1997

"'Social Constructivism' and the Image of Science"; paper delivered at Academic Festival III: Science in the 21st Century, at Cameron University, Lawton, OK; March 20-22, 1997

"Are Dinosaurs Social Constructs?"; paper delivered to the Colloquium of the Philosophy Dept. of the University of Texas at Austin; Jan. 31, 1997

Debate: Creation vs. Evolution;
"Transitional Fossils Support the Case for Evolution;" Berry College, Rome, GA, Sept. 10, 1996

TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

Associate Professor, University of Houston Clear Lake (8/96-present): Darwin and His Critics; Theory of Knowledge; Ethics; Philosophy of Religion; Logic (both deductive and inductive); Basic Texts; (Humanities Core); Texts and Images (graduate humanities core); Philosophy of History; Metaphysics; History of Philosophy I and II; History of Exploration; Philosophy of Mind; Science and Pseudoscience; Development of the Sciences

Teaching Fellow, Dept. of History and Philosophy of Science, University of Pittsburgh (8/93-4/96): Myth and Science, Science and Pseudoscience; Principles of Scientific Reasoning; Problem Solving.

Teaching Fellow, Dept. of Classics, University of Pittsburgh (8/92-4/93): Mythology; Pre-Socratic Philosophy

Teaching Fellow, Dept. of Communications and Rhetoric, University of Pittsburgh (8/91-4/92): Rhetoric; Public Speaking

Assistant Professor, Berry College, Rome, GA 30149
(9/89-8/90): Introduction to Philosophy; Critical Thinking

Adjunct Faculty, St. Francis College, Health Arts Program,
500 Wilcox St. Joliet, IL 60435 (8/88-12/88): Introduction
to Ethics

Adjunct Faculty, Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA
30303 (9/86-8/89): Informal Logic/Critical Thinking;
Introduction to Philosophy; History of Philosophy

Graduate Assistant, Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario,
K7L 3N6, Canada (Summer '84 and Summer '86):
Introduction to Logic (through first-order predicate
calculus); Introduction to Philosophy

THESIS DIRECTION:

"Music and Meaning," William Edward Snider, M.A. 2001

"School Prayer: A Violation of the First Amendment;"
Louis Salmon, M.A., 1998

Direction of Reflective Essays for M.A. students at the
Ramsey Unit of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice
(Fall, 1998)

ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL HONORS:

Faculty Research Support Fellowship, University of
Houston, Clear Lake, amount: \$2122, July 2003

Faculty Research Support Fellowship, University of
Houston, Clear Lake, amount: \$800, October, 2003

University of Houston, Clear Lake: Phi Kappa Phi
honorary society; Secretary 2001-2002; President, 2003-
2004

University of Pittsburgh: Apple for the
Teacher Award (university-wide award for excellence in
teaching); Sigma Xi (honorary society for scientific
research); selected to participate in the Dibner Institute

Seminar, Marine Biological Laboratory, Woods Hole, MA
(summer, 1994)

Queen's University: R.S. MacLaughlin Fellow

Emory University: M.T.S. awarded *Cum Laude*

Berry College: B.A. awarded *Magna Cum Laude*; Charles
A. Dana Scholar

**MEMBERSHIPS AND
AFFILIATIONS:**

Research Associate, Carnegie Museum of Natural History,
Pittsburgh, PA; Dept. of
Vertebrate Paleontology

Philosophy of Science Association

American Philosophical Association