

# Richard Brian Davis, Ph.D.

Professor of Philosophy  
Tyndale University College  
Toronto, Ontario, Canada M2M 4B3  
Email: rdavis@tyndale.ca  
Phone: 416.226.6620 ext. 2124 (work)

---

## EDUCATION

1993-1998    PhD in Philosophy, University of Toronto,  
                  *Dissertation: The Dependence Problem: Theism, Counterpossibles, and Necessity*

1992-1993    MA in Philosophy, University of Toronto,

1983-1986    BSc in Biology, University of Alberta

## EMPLOYMENT

2013            Professor of Philosophy, Tyndale University College,

2012-2015    Chair of Philosophy, Tyndale University College

2003-2013    Associate Professor of Philosophy, Tyndale University College

2000-2003    Assistant Professor of Philosophy, Tyndale University College

2000-         Adjunct Professor of Philosophy, Glendon College, York University

1999-2000    Adjunct Professor of Philosophy, Tyndale University College

1997-1999    Adjunct Professor of Philosophy, University of Toronto

## AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION AND COMPETENCE

### *Areas of Specialization*

Metaphysics and ontology (individuation, universals, relations, modality, constituent ontology);  
Philosophy of Religion; Epistemology.

### *Areas of Competence*

Logic (formal, informal, modal); Early Modern Philosophy; Philosophy of Science, Ethics.

## PUBLICATIONS

### *Books*

- 2016 *Four Views on Christianity and Philosophy*. Co-edited with Paul Gould. Grand Rapids: Zondervan.
- 2014 *Loving God with your Mind: Essays in Honor of J. P. Moreland*. Co-edited with Paul Gould. Chicago: Moody Press.
- 2010 *Alice in Wonderland and Philosophy*. Editor. Malden, MA: Wiley-Blackwell.
- 2007 *24 and Philosophy: The World According to Jack*. Co-edited with Jennifer Hart Weed and Ronald Weed. Oxford: Blackwell. Translated into Portuguese August 2008.
- 2001 *The Metaphysics of Theism and Modality*, American University Studies, Series V: Philosophy, Vol. 189. New York: Peter Lang Publishing. Reviewed by Hugo Meynell in *Heythrop Journal* (July 2005).

### Articles

- 2018 Agent Causal Theism. In W. Paul Franks, ed., *Explaining Evil: Four Views*. Bloomsbury Academic (forthcoming).
- 2018 Replies to Helm, Wielenberg, and Ruse. In W. Paul Franks, ed., *Explaining Evil: Four Views*. Bloomsbury Academic (forthcoming).
- 2018 Plantinga's Defence and His Theodicy are Incompatible (with Paul Franks). In Klaas J. Kraay, ed., *Does God Matter? Essays on the Axiological Consequences of Theism*. New York: Routledge Press (forthcoming).
- 2017 Where the Bootstrapping Really Lies: A Neo-Aristotelian Reply to Panchuk (with Paul Gould). *International Philosophical Quarterly* (forthcoming).
- 2015 Counterpossibles and the 'Terrible' Divine Command Deity (with Paul Franks). *Religious Studies* 51: 1-19.
- 2014 On Jesus, Derrida, and Dawkins: Rejoinder to Joshua Harris (with Paul Franks). *Philosophia Christi* 16: 175-181.
- 2014 What Place, then, for Rational Apologetics? (with Paul Franks). In Paul Gould and Richard Brian Davis, eds., *Loving God with Your Mind: Essays in Honor of J. P. Moreland*. Chicago: Moody Press, pp. 127-140.
- 2014 Modified Theistic Activism (with Paul Gould). In Paul Gould, ed., *Beyond the Control of God? Six Views on the Problem of God and Abstract Objects*. New York, NY: Continuum.
- 2014 Replies to Craig, Yandell, Oppy, Shalkowski, and Welty. In Paul Gould, ed., *Beyond the Control of God? Six Views on the Problem of God and Abstract Objects*. New York, NY: Continuum.
- 2014 Adam, Eve, and the Gospel (with Paul Franks). *Enrichment Journal* 19: 32-35.
- 2013 Layman's Lapse: On an Incomplete Moral Argument for Theism (with Paul Franks). *Philo* 16: 1-9.
- 2013 Against a Postmodern Pentecostal Epistemology (with Paul Franks). *Philosophia Christi* 15: 129-145.
- 2013 Are Bare Particulars Constituents? *Acta Analytica* 28: 395-410.
- 2013 How to Individuate Universals—Or Not. *Axiomathes* 23: 551-566.

- 2011 God and the Platonic Horde: A Defense of Limited Conceptualism. *Philosophia Christi* 13: 298-303.
- 2009 Oppy and Modal Theistic Proofs. *Philosophia Christi* 11: 437-444.
- 2009 Magneto, Mutation, and Morality. In Rebecca Housel and J. Jeremy Wisnewski, eds., *X-Men and Philosophy*. Malden, MA: Wiley-Blackwell, pp. 125-139.
- 2008 A Puzzle for Particulars? (with David Brown). *Axiomathes* 18: 49-65.
- 2008 God and Modal Concretism. *Philosophia Christi* 10: 37-54.
- 2007 Beyond the Call of Duty. In Jennifer Hart Weed, Richard Davis, and Ronald Weed, eds., *24 and Philosophy: The World According to Jack*. Oxford: Blackwell, pp. 31-42.
- 2006 God and Counterpossibles. *Religious Studies* 42: 371-391.
- 2006 Is Socrates A Predicate? *Metaphysica* 7: 5-18.
- 2004 The Brave New Bare Particularism. *The Modern Schoolman* 81: 267-273.
- 2004 On Individuators: A Reply to Timothy Pickavance. *Philosophia Christi* 6: 111-120.
- 2004 A Premature Farewell to Leibnizian Essences: A Response to J. P. Moreland. *Philosophia Christi* 6: 87-94.
- 2003 'Partially Clad' Bare Particulars Exposed. *Australasian Journal of Philosophy* 81: 534-548.
- 2002 Haecceities, Individuation, and the Trinity: A Reply to Keith Yandell. *Religious Studies* 38: 201-213.
- 2002 Can There Be An 'Orthodox' Postmodern Theology? *Journal of the Evangelical Theological Society* 45: 111-123.
- 2000 James Fodor's Christian Theory of Truth: Is it Christian? (with David Brown). *Heythrop Journal* 41: 436-448.
- 1997 Zagzebski and Interesting Counterpossibles. *Proceedings of the American Catholic Philosophical Association* 71: 125-136.
- 1996 Bonaventure and the Arguments for the Impossibility of an Infinite Temporal Regression. *American Catholic Philosophical Quarterly* 70: 362-380.
- 1996 Time, Infinity, and the Creation of the Universe: A Study in Al-Kindi's *First Philosophy*. *Auslegung* 21: 1-16.
- 1995 The Principlism Debate: A Critical Overview. *The Journal of Medicine and Philosophy* 20: 85-105.
- 1994 Modality and Eternity: Averroes on the Eternity of the World. *Lyceum* 6: 21-40.

### Reviews

- 2005 Gary Habermas' *The Risen Jesus and Future Hope*. *Philosophia Christi* 7: 231-234.
- 2004 Jay Wesley Richards' *The Untamed God: A Philosophical Exploration of Divine Perfection, Simplicity, and Immutability*. *Philosophia Christi* 6: 355-356.
- 2003 Peter Loftson's *Reality: Fundamental Topics in Metaphysics*. *University of Toronto Quarterly* 72: 322-323.
- 2002 Michael Ruse's *Can a Darwinian Be a Christian?* *Books in Canada* 31: 22.
- 2001 Thomas Hurka's *Virtues, Vices, and Value*. *Books in Canada* 30: 29.

## References/Replies to My Work

- 2016 Michelle Panchuk, Created and Uncreated Things: A Neo-Augustinian Solution to the Bootstrapping Problem. *International Philosophical Quarterly* 56: 99–112.
- 2016 Michelle Panchuk, Divine Ideas for Metaphysical Realism. Unpublished Ph.D. dissertation. University of South Carolina.
- 2016 Joshua Mugg, The Quietest Challenge to the Axiology of God: A Cognitive Approach to Counterpossibles. *Faith and Philosophy* 33: 441-460.
- 2016 Wes Morrison, 'Terrible' Divine Commands Revisited: A Response to Davis and Franks. *Religious Studies* 52: 361-373.
- 2014 Robert K. Garcia, Bare Particulars and Constituent Ontology. *Acta Analytica* 29: 149-159.
- 2014 Timothy Pickavance, Bare Particulars and Exemplification. *American Philosophical Quarterly* 51: 95-108.
- 2014 Timothy Pickavance, Individuation and Incarnation. In Paul Gould and Richard Brian Davis, eds., *Loving God with Your Mind: Essays in Honor of J. P. Moreland*. Chicago: Moody Press, pp. 51-66.
- 2014 Joshua Lee Harris, Who's Truth? A Response to Davis and Franks's Against a Postmodern Pentecostal Epistemology. *Philosophia Christi* 16: 175-184.
- 2013 Jesse M. Mulder, The Essentialist Inference. *Australasian Journal of Philosophy* 91: 755-769.
- 2012 Andrew M. Bailey, No Bare Particulars. *Philosophical Studies* 58: 31-41.
- 2010 Sara L. Uckelman, Reasoning about the Trinity: A Modern Formalization of a Medieval System of Trinitarian Logic. In A. Schumann, ed., *Logic in Religious Discourse*. Frankfurt: Ontos, pp. 216-239.
- 2009 Fred Wilson, Universals, Particulars, Tropes and Blobs. In Rosaria Egidi and Guido Bonino, eds., *Fostering the Ontological Turn (1906-1987)*. Frankfurt: Ontos Verlag, pp. 15-43.
- 2009 Graham Oppy, Reply to Richard Davis. *Philosophia Christi* 11: 423-436.
- 2009 Timothy Pickavance, In Defense of 'Partially Clad' Bare Particulars.' *Australasian Journal of Philosophy* 89: 1-4.
- 2008 Klaas J. Kraay, Creation, Actualization, and God's Choice Among Possible Worlds. *Philosophy Compass* 3: 854-872.
- 2008 Martin Schmidt, On Spacetime, Points, and Bare Particulars. *Metaphysica* 9: 69-77.
- 2006 Christopher M. Cullen, *Bonaventure*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- 2006 Brian Leftow, Impossible Worlds. *Religious Studies* 42: 393-402.
- 2006 Jeffrey Grupp, Blob Theory: N-adic Properties Do Not Exist. *Sorites* 17: 104-131.
- 2005 Benjamin Brown, Bonaventure on the Impossibility of a Beginningless World: Why the Traversal Argument Works." *American Catholic Philosophical Quarterly* 79: 389–409.
- 2005 Nancy Stowe Cader, Justifying Bioethical Case Decisions: Reflective Equilibrium and Mid-Level Moral Principles. Unpublished Ph.D. dissertation. University of Maryland, College Park.
- 2004 M. Gordon, Humanity in Long-Term Care: Ethical, Clinical, and Social Challenges. *Canadian Family Physician* 50: 1629–1631.
- 2004 D. W. Mertz, The Nature and Necessity of Composite Simples. *Metaphysica* 5: 89–134.

- 2004 Frank Hofmann, Substrate. *Metaphysica* 5: 35–62.
- 2004 Timothy Pickavance, The Farewell to Leibnizian Essences Matured: A Reply to Richard Brian Davis. *Philosophia Christi* 6: 95–110.
- 2004 William Lane Craig and Paul Copan, Creation and Abstract Objects. In *Creation out of Nothing: A Biblical, Philosophical, and Scientific Exploration*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books.
- 2003 J. P. Moreland and William Lane Craig, *Philosophical Foundations for a Christian Worldview*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press.
- 2003 Jeffrey Brand-Ballard, Consistency, Common Morality, and Reflective Equilibrium. *Kennedy Institute of Ethics Journal* 13: 231–258.
- 2003 Anthony S. Kessel, Public Health Ethics: Teaching Survey and Critical Review. *Social Science and Medicine* 56: 1439–1445.
- 2003 William Lane Craig and Antony Flew, *Does God Exist?: The Craig-Flew Debate*, ed. Stan W. Wallace. Farnham, Surrey, UK: Ashgate Publishing.
- 2002 Randal Rauser, Is the Trinity a True Contradiction? *Quodlibet Journal* 4(4).
- 2002 Kim D. Arcus and Anthony S. Kessel, Are Ethical Principles Relative to Time and Place? *British Medical Journal* 325: 1493–1495.
- 2001 Tom L. Beauchamp, Internal and External Standard for Medical Morality. *Journal of Medicine and Philosophy* 26: 601–619.
- 2001 S. F. Jones and Anthony S. Kessel, The ‘Redefinition of Death’ Debate: Western Concepts and Western Bioethics. *Science and Engineering Ethics* 7: 63–75.
- 2000 Carson Strong, Specified Principlism: What is it, and Does it Really Resolve Cases Better Than Casuistry? *Journal of Medicine and Philosophy* 25: 323–341.
- 2000 Anthony S. Kessel, The Ethics of Unlinked Anonymous Testing–Reply. *British Medical Journal* 320: 1276.
- 2000 Greg Welty, An Examination of Theistic Conceptual Realism as an Alternative to Theistic Activism. Unpublished M.Phil. dissertation. Oxford University.
- 1998 M. D. Walz, Theological and Philosophical Dependencies in Saint Bonaventure’s Argument Against an Eternal World and a Brief Thomistic Reply. *American Catholic Philosophical Quarterly* 72: 75–98.
- 1998 B. Andrew Lustig, Concepts and Methods in Recent Bioethics: Critical Responses. *Journal of Medicine and Philosophy* 23: 445–455.
- 1998 W. J. van der Steen, Forging Links Between Philosophy, Ethics, and the Life Sciences: A Tale of Disciplines and Trenches. *History and Philosophy of the Life Sciences* 20: 233–248.
- 1998 Mark Kuczewski, Casuistry and Principlism: The Convergences of Method in Biomedical Ethics. *Theoretical Medicine and Bioethics* 19: 509–524.
- 1998 A. Leist, Applied Ethics Between Theoretical Demands and Social Function. *Deutsche Zeitschrift für Philosophie* 46: 753–779.
- 1998 Anthony S. Kessel and J. Meran, Advance Directives in the UK: Legal, Ethical, and Practical Considerations for Doctors. *British Journal of General Practice* 48: 1263–1266.
- 1998 Anthony S. Kessel, “Confidentiality May Be Overhauled. *British Medical Journal* 316: 56–57.
- 1997 Steven Baldner, St. Bonaventure and the Demonstrability of a Temporal Beginning: A Reply to Richard Davis. *American Catholic Philosophical Quarterly* 71: 225–236.

- 1995 Lawrence B. McCullough, Preventive Ethics, Professional Integrity, and Boundary Setting—The Clinical Management of Moral Uncertainty. *Journal of Medicine and Philosophy* 20: 1–11.

## SCHOLARLY ACTIVITIES/AWARDS

### *Conference Presentations*

- 2017 Hasker's 'Good News'?: Materialism is Out, Soul-Fields are In." Keynote address at the Annual Meeting of the Canadian Society of Christian Philosophers, Ryerson University.
- 2016 Brian McLaren's Gospel of Hospitality. ETS Annual Meeting, San Antonio, TX.
- 2015 On Plantingean Pro-Theism: Transworld Depravity, Incarnation, and Atonement (with Paul Franks). EPS Annual Meeting, Atlanta GA.
- On Plantingean Pro-Theism: Transworld Depravity, Incarnation, and Atonement (with Paul Franks). The Axiology of Theism Conference. Ryerson University (Toronto, Canada).
- On Plantingean Pro-Theism: Transworld Depravity, Incarnation, and Atonement (with Paul Franks). Toronto Philosophy of Religion Works-In-Progress Workshop.
- 2014 Theism and the Counterpossible Consensus. Ryerson Philosophy Department Speakers' Series.
- Counterpossibles and the 'Terrible' Divine Command Deity (with Paul Franks). EPS Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA.
- Counterpossibles and the 'Terrible' Divine Command Deity. University of New Brunswick Philosophy Colloquium.
- 2013 Counterpossibles and the 'Terrible' Divine Command Deity (with Paul Franks). Toronto Philosophy of Religion Works-In-Progress Group.
- Against a Postmodern Pentecostal Epistemology (with Paul Franks). EPS Annual Meeting, Baltimore, MA.
- 2008 The Conceptualist Argument Revisited. EPS Annual Meeting, Providence, Rhode Island.
- 2006 God and Counterpossibles. EPS Annual Meeting, Washington, DC.
- 2004 Anselm, Platonism, and Perfect Islands. Pacific Division Meeting of the APA, Pasadena.
- 2002 Haecceities, Individuation, and the Trinity. EPS Annual Meeting, Toronto, Canada.
- 2002 Is There Design in the Shroud? CPA and CSCP Annual Meeting, University of Toronto.
- 2000 Is Plantinga's Model of Warranted Theistic Belief Epistemically Circular? CPA and CSCP, Annual Meeting, University of Alberta. [Respondent: Alvin Plantinga]
- 1997 Zagzebski, Counterpossibles, and the Dependence Problem. American Catholic Philosophical Association, Annual Meeting, Buffalo, NY.
- 1996 Zeis, Berkeley, and Counterpossibles. CPA, Annual Meeting, Brock University.
- 1995 The Principlism Debate. Canadian Graduate Students' Conference in Philosophy, University of Manitoba.
- 1994 Hare's 'Going-Meta' Ethics. Ontario Philosophical Association, York University.
- 1994 Talmage's 'Diotic' Cosmological Argument. CSCP, Annual Meeting, University of Calgary.

### *Invited Lectures/Panels*

- 2005 Individuating Gods. Graduate Seminar: Aquinas and the Metaphysics of Theism, Biola University, La Mirada, CA.
- 2005 God and Possible Worlds. Graduate Philosophy Colloquium, Biola University, La Mirada, CA.
- 2005 Counterpossibles and Christianity. Graduate Seminar: Metaphysics I, Biola University, La Mirada, CA.

## **COURSES TAUGHT**

Atheism  
 Belief, Truth and Knowledge  
 Bioethics  
 Business Ethics  
 Clarke and His Critics  
 Critical Thinking  
 Ethics and Medical Research  
 Ethics, Death and Dying  
 History of Philosophy I  
 History of Philosophy II  
 Introduction to Philosophy  
 Metaphysics  
 Metaphysics of Theism  
 Modern Philosophy  
 Moral Questions & Social Policies  
 Philosophy of Religion  
 Philosophy of Science  
 Reasoning and Philosophy  
 Symbolic Logic  
 The Analytic Tradition  
 The Possibility of Knowledge  
 The Quest for Meaning  
 War and Morality  
 Western Thought

## **SERVICE**

### *University*

UC Task Force	2016-2017
Search Committee, Biblical Studies	2016-2017

Member, Academic Policy Committee	2013-2014
Chair, Department of Philosophy	2011-2014
Member, Academic Planning Committee	2011-2014
Member, Presidential Search Committee	2008–2010
Member, Dean’s Search Committee	2004–2005
Member, Research Ethics Committee	2003–2004
Member, Promotion and Tenure Committee	2003–2013
Search Committee, Philosophy Department	2003–2004
Advisor, Leading Edge Program	2003–2004
Search Committee, Philosophy Department	2002–2003
Co-Director, Leading Edge Program	2001–2002
Director, Leading Edge Program	2000–2001
Member, Academic Standards Committee	2000–2002

*Profession*

Referee: for *American Philosophical Quarterly*, *Canadian Philosophical Association*, *Erkenntnis*, *Journal of Analytic Theology*, *Journal of Philosophical Research*, *Philosophia*, *Philosophia Christi*, *Philosophical Papers*.

Chair: Author Meets Critics: John Leslie’s Infinite Minds, Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, 2002. Main speakers, John Leslie (Guelph University) and Robin Collins (Messiah College).

Chair: Two Ends of Practical Reason, Annual Meeting of the Canadian Society of Christian Philosophers in conjunction with the Canadian Philosophical Association, 2000. Main speakers, Hugo Meynell (University of Calgary) and Jim Gerrie (Guelph University).

Executive Committee Member: *Evangelical Philosophical Society*, 2006-2009.