

# Justin Tiehen

Department of Philosophy, University of Puget Sound  
1500 N. Warner St. · Wyatt Hall 318 (CMB 1086) · Tacoma, WA 98416-1086  
(253) 879-6579 · jtiehen@pugetsound.edu

## EMPLOYMENT

University of Puget Sound, Department of Philosophy  
*Professor* (2019-present) and *Chair* (2017-2020)  
*Associate Professor* (2013-2019)  
*Assistant Professor* (2007-2013)

## RESEARCH & TEACHING PROFILE

*Areas of Specialization:* philosophy of mind, philosophy of artificial intelligence, philosophy of cognitive science, metaphysics

*Areas of Competence:* philosophy of science, epistemology, AI ethics

## EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Philosophy, University of Texas at Austin, 2007  
Dissertation: *Normativism and Mental Causation*

B.A. in Philosophy, University of Chicago, 2000

## HONORS AND AWARDS

*National Endowment for the Humanities, Collaborative Research Grant, Dangers and Opportunities of Technology: Perspectives from the Humanities*, for the project “Robot Existentialism: Artificial Intelligence and the Limits of Rationality” (with Ariela Tubert, 2023-2025)

*James Dolliver National Endowment for the Humanities Distinguished Teaching Professorship*, for the project “The Humanities and Artificial Intelligence” (with Ariela Tubert, 2022-2025)

*John Lantz Senior Fellowship for Research or Advanced Study* (full year sabbatical, 2020-2021)

*Burlington-Northern Curriculum Development Grant*, for developing the course, Neuroethics and Human Enhancement (Summer 2017).

*Burlington-Northern Curriculum Development Grant*, for developing the course, Cognitive Foundations of Morality and Religion (Summer 2012).

*Mellon Foundation, Pre-Tenure Sabbatical Fellowship* (Spring 2011).

*Richard M. Griffith Memorial Award*, for outstanding paper by a young philosopher, for the paper “Explaining Causal Closure”, given at the Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology annual meeting in Savannah, Georgia (April 2009).

*Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology (SSPP) Travel Grant*, for the outstanding graduate student paper in philosophy, for the paper “Against Proportionality”, given at the Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology annual meeting in Durham, North Carolina (March 2005).

## PUBLICATIONS

- “Authentic Artificial Love,” with Ariela Tubert, *Oxford Intersections: AI & Society* (under contract).
- “Existentialist Risk and Value Misalignment,” with Ariela Tubert, *Philosophical Studies*, special issue on AI Safety, (2024).
- “Value Alignment, Human Enhancement, and Moral Revolutions,” with Ariela Tubert, *Inquiry: An Interdisciplinary Journal of Philosophy*, special issue, New Work on Philosophy of AI, (2023).
- “Perception as Controlled Hallucination,” *Analytic Philosophy* 64.4 (2023): 355-372.
- “Metaphysics of the Bayesian Mind,” *Mind & Language*, 38.2 (2023): 336-354.
- “The IKEA Effect and the Production of Epistemic Goods,” *Philosophical Studies* 179 (2022): 3401-3420.
- “The Absentminded Professor,” *Inquiry: An Interdisciplinary Journal of Philosophy* (2022): 1-16, <https://doi.org/10.1080/0020174X.2022.2074887>.
- “Causation in Physics & in Physicalism,” *Acta Analytica*, 37 (2022): 471-488.
- “How Counterpart Theory Saves Nonreductive Physicalism,” *Mind*, 128.509 (2019): 139-174.
- “Physicalism,” *Analysis*, 78.3.1 (2018): 537-551.
- “Virtue Ethics and the CREEPER Act,” *Seattle University Law Review*, 41.4 (2018): 1153-1161.
- “Physicalism Requires Functionalism: A New Formulation and Defense of the Via Negativa,” *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*, 93.1 (2016): 3-24.
- “Grounding Causal Closure,” *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly*, 97.4 (2016): 501-522.
- “The Role Functional Theory of Absences,” *Erkenntnis*, 80.3 (2015), 505-519.
- “Explaining Causal Closure,” *Philosophical Studies*, 172.9 (2015), 2405-2425.
- “A Priori Scrutability and That’s All,” *Journal of Philosophy*, 111.12 (2014), 649-666.
- “A Psychofunctionalist Argument Against Nonconceptualism,” *Synthese*, 191.16 (2014), 3919-3934.
- “Subset Realization and the Problem of Property Entailment,” *Erkenntnis*, 79.2 (2014), 471-480.
- “The Cost of Forfeiting Causal Inheritance,” *Philosophical Studies*, 165.2 (2013). 491-507.
- “Ectoplasm Earth,” *Canadian Journal of Philosophy*, 42.3/4 (2012), 167-186.
- “Psychophysical Reductionism without Type Identities,” *American Philosophical Quarterly*, 49.3 (2012), 223-236.
- “Disproportional Mental Causation,” *Synthese*, 182 (2011), 375-391.
- “Emergence and Quantum Mechanics,” with Fred Kronz, *Philosophy of Science*, 69.2 (2002), 324-347.

## BOOK REVIEW

Review of David J. Chalmers' *Constructing the World*, in *Philosophy*, 88.346 (2013), 630-5.

## PRESENTATIONS

"Authentic Artificial Life," with Ariela Tubert, *Greater Seattle Area Philosophical Symposium*, University of Washington (May, 2024).

Comments on Simon Goldstein & Cameron Domenico Kirk-Giannini's "A Case for AI Consciousness: Artificial Language Agents and Global Workspace Theory," meeting of the Pacific Division of the American Philosophical Association, Portland, Oregon (March 2024)

"Epistemic Credit and Causal Responsibility," *The 17<sup>th</sup> International Congress on Logic, Methodology and Philosophy of Science and Technology*, Buenos Aires, Argentina (July 2023)

Comments on Lara Soter's "Reframing Epistemic Partiality: Acceptance and the Cognitive Work of Friendship," Meeting of the Pacific Division of the American Philosophical Association, San Francisco, California (March 2023)

"Passing Pearl's Mini-Turing Test," *The Philosophy of Deep Learning*, New York University poster session (March 2023)

"Existentialist Risk and Value Misalignment," with Ariela Tubert, *Philosophy, Artificial Intelligence and Society Workshop*, Stanford University (January 2023)

Comments on Zach Blaesi's "Grounding a Definition of Physicalism," Meeting of the Central Division of the American Philosophical Association, Chicago, Illinois (March 2022)

"Pedophilia and Child Sex Bots," at a participant in Singularity: AI and the Law Conference at Seattle University (March 2018)

Comments on Christian Sachse's "Multiple Realization and Biological Function Made Compatible with the Subset Approach and Ontological Reductionism," Third Annual Conference of the Society for the Metaphysics of Science, at Fordham University in New York, New York (October 2017)

"Realization as Grounding," Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology Annual Conference, Savannah, Georgia (March 2017)

"Realization as Grounding," Meeting of the Pacific Division of the American Philosophical Association, San Francisco, California (April 2016)

"A Theory of Everything That Exists in the Entire World," Phi Beta Kappa Magee Address, University of Puget Sound, Tacoma, Washington (October 2015)

"How to Define the Physical," Symposium Session, Meeting of the Pacific Division of the American Philosophical Association, Vancouver, Canada (April 2015)

"A Priori Scrutability and That's All," Joint Conference of the Latin American Association for Latin American Philosophy (ALFAN) and the Brazilian Society for Analytic Philosophy (SBFA), Fortaleza, Brazil (May 2014)

- “Physics Does Not Entail Causal Closure,” Meeting of the Pacific Division of the American Philosophical Association, San Diego, California (April 2014)
- “Mental Causation and Grounding,” Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology Annual Conference, Savannah, Georgia (March 2012)
- “Kim and Shoemaker on Causal Exclusion,” Meeting of the Pacific Division of the American Philosophical Association, San Diego, California (April 2011)
- Comments on Kevin W. Sharpe’s “Property Dualists Should Be Substance Dualists: The Zombie Argument,” Meeting of the Central Division of the American Philosophical Association, Minneapolis, Minnesota (April 2011)
- “Explaining Causal Closure,” Northwest Philosophy Conference, Forest Grove, Oregon, at Pacific University (October 2009)
- Comments on Kevin Morris’s “Brute Supervenience,” Northwest Philosophy Conference, Forest Grove, Oregon, at Pacific University (October 2009)
- “Explaining Causal Closure,” Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology Annual Conference, Savannah, Georgia (April 2009)
- Comments on Michael Rota’s “An Antireductionist Account of Causation,” Meeting of the Central Division of the American Philosophical Association, Chicago, Illinois (February 2009)
- “Poe and the Philosophy of Mind,” for *SymPOEsium*, University of Puget Sound (February 2009)
- “Explaining Causal Closure (or: The Problem with Dualism isn’t Causal),” Mellon Mental Causation Workshop, Syracuse University (December 2007)
- “Against Proportionality,” Joint Session of the Aristotelian Society and the Mind Association, Southampton, U.K. (July 2006)
- “Again Proportionality,” 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Princeton-Rutgers Graduate Student Philosophy Conference (March 2006)
- “Against Proportionality,” Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology Annual Conference, Durham, North Carolina (March 2005). Winner of graduate student travel grant for that conference.

## **COURSES TAUGHT AT PUGET SOUND**

- PHIL 101: Introduction to Philosophy
- PHIL 105: Neuroethics and Human Enhancement
- PHIL 230: Philosophy of Mind
- PHIL 232: Philosophy of Science (previously taught as PHIL 332)
- PHIL 330: Epistemology
- PHIL 331: Metaphysics
- PHIL 430: Topics in Knowledge and Reality
- PHIL 450: Topics in Value Theory

SSI1/2 128: The Philosophy and Science of Human Nature  
CONN 393: The Cognitive Foundations of Morality and Religion

## **FURTHER RESEARCH**

*Co-leader (with Ariela Tubert) of the Dolliver Seminar on Artificial Intelligence and the Humanities, at the University of Puget Sound (May-June 2023)*

*Participant in the Dolliver Seminar on What's in a Fact?, led by Monica DeHart and Priti Joshi at the University of Puget Sound (June 2018)*

*Participant in the NEH Summer Seminar on Mind and Metaphysics, led by John Heil at Washington University in St. Louis (June-July 2009)*

*Participant in the Dolliver Seminar on Teaching Difficult Texts, led by Hans Ostrom at the University of Puget Sound in Tacoma (May-June 2009)*

## **UNIVERSITY AND DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE**

Chair of the Faculty Senate (2024-present)

Member of the Professional Standards Committee (starting 2021-present). Chair of the Committee (2023-2024)

Chair of the Philosophy Department (2017-2020)

Member of the Faculty Salary Committee, University of Puget Sound (2017- 2020)

Member of the Lillis Scholarship Committee (2015-present)

Member of the Collier Committee (2018-present)

Member of Advisory Committee for the Interdisciplinary Humanities Emphasis (2018-present)

Faculty Liaison for Baseball Team (2016-present)

Member of the Committee judging student awards for writing excellence in a Connections class (Spring 2015), Chair of the Committee (Spring 2018 and Spring 2019)

President of the Puget Sound Chapter of Phi Beta Kappa (2018-2020)

Member of the Curriculum Committee, University of Puget Sound (2016-2017)

Member of the Institutional Review Board, University of Puget Sound (2014-2015)

Member of the University Enrichment Committee, University of Puget Sound (2012-2013). Chair of the Committee (Spring, 2013)

Member of the Diversity Committee, University of Puget Sound (2008-2010)

Member of the Diversity Advising Council, University of Puget Sound (2008-2010)

Participant in the Sustainability in the Curriculum Workshop, University of Puget Sound (Summer 2008)

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Referee for the National Science Foundation, Science and Technology Studies Program

Referee for the following journals...

*Acta Analytica*

*American Philosophical Quarterly*

*Analysis*

*Australasian Journal of Philosophy*

*British Journal for the Philosophy of Science*

*Dialectica*

*Dialogue*

*Ergo*

*Erkenntnis*

*European Journal of Philosophy*

*Inquiry*

*Journal for the History of Astronomy*

*Journal of Consciousness Studies*

*Journal of the American Philosophical Association*

*Journal of Philosophy*

*Mind*

*Noûs*

*Pacific Philosophical Quarterly*

*Philosophers' Imprint*

*Philosophia*

*Philosophical Quarterly*

*Philosophical Studies*

*Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*

*Synthese*

*Topoi*