

Thomas J. McKay

Education:

- B.A. Swarthmore College, 1969
- M.A. University of Massachusetts, 1972
- Ph.D. University of Massachusetts, 1974
Dissertation - "Essentialism and Quantified Modal Logic:
Quine's Argument and Kripke's Semantics"

Academic Positions:

- Syracuse University: Assistant Professor, 1973-1979
- Associate Professor, 1979-1996
- Professor, 1996-
- Director of Syracuse Semester in Italy Program, 1980-81
- Department Chair, 1995-2002

Areas of Specialization:

Logic, philosophy of language, and metaphysics

Book:

Plural predication, Oxford University Press, 2006. (viii + 263 pages). (Online at <http://www.oxfordscholarship.com/oso/public/content/philosophy/9780199278145/toc.html>)

Textbooks:

- Modern Formal Logic*
 - First edition, Macmillan, 1989.
 - Second edition, Thomson, 2006.
- Reasons, Explanations and Decisions* (Wadsworth), 2000.

Journal Articles:

- "Essentialism in Quantified Modal Logic," *Journal of Philosophical Logic* 4 (1975), 423-438.
- "Counterfactuals with Disjunctive Antecedents," with Peter van Inwagen, *Philosophical Studies* 31 (1977), 353-356.

"The Principle of Predication," *Journal of Philosophical Logic* 7 (1978), 19-26.

"Natural Kind Terms and Standards of Membership," with Cindy Stern, *Linguistics and Philosophy* 3 (1979), 27-34.

"On Proper Names in Belief Ascriptions," *Philosophical Studies* 39 (1981), 287-303.

"On Showing Invalidity," *Canadian Journal of Philosophy* 14 (1984), 97-100.

Critical Review of Michael Devitt's *Designation*, *Noûs* 18 (1984), 357-367.

"Actions and De Re Beliefs," *Canadian Journal of Philosophy* 14 (1984), 631-635.

"On Critical Thinking," *American Philosophical Association Newsletter on Teaching Philosophy*, Spring-Summer 1985, 19-20.

"His Burning Pants," *Notre Dame Journal of Formal Logic* 27 (1986), 393-400.

"Lowe and Baldwin on Modalities," *Mind* 95 (1986), 499-505.

"*he himself*: Undiscovering an Anaphor," *Linguistic Inquiry* 22 (1991), 368-373.

"Representing *de re* Beliefs," *Linguistics and Philosophy* 14 (1991), 711-739.

"Analogy and Argument," *Teaching Philosophy*, 20 (1997), 49-60.

"A reconsideration of an argument against compatibilism," *Philosophical Topics*, 24 (1996), 113-121. (Actually published in late 1997.)

Critical study of Henry Laycock's *Words without objects*, for *Canadian Journal of Philosophy* 38 (June, 2008), 301-323.

Book chapters:

"Singular Terms in Modal Logic," *Views on Language*, edited by Reza Ordoubadian and Wallburga Von-Raffler Engle, Inter-University Publishing (Tennessee), 1975, 32-52.

"Against Constitutional Sufficiency Principles," *Midwest Studies in Philosophy* 11 (1986).

"De Re and De Se Belief," in *Philosophical Analysis: A Defense by Example*, edited by David Austin, Reidel (Dordrecht), 1988.

"Names, Causal Chains, and De Re Beliefs," *Philosophical Perspectives* 8 (1994), James E. Tomberlin, editor.

"Plural Reference and Unbound Pronouns," in *Logic and Philosophy of Science in Uppsala*, edited by Dag Prawitz and Dag Westerstahl, 1994.

Encyclopedia articles:

Definitions: "Opacity", "Indirect Discourse", "Connotation", "Denotation", and related material for the *Cambridge Dictionary of Philosophy*, 1995, Robert Audi, editorial supervisor.

"Modal Logic, Philosophical Issues," for the *Routledge Encyclopedia of Philosophy*, edited by Edward Craig

"Propositional Attitude Reports," *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*, 2000, 2005. (This is an online encyclopedia.) The 2005 version is co-authored with Michael Nelson.

Presentations (1989-):

"Names, Causal Chains and De Re Beliefs," *American Philosophical Association*, Central Division, May, 1989.

"Belief de re," *American Philosophical Association*, Pacific Division, April, 1990. (Commentator)

"On Social Content," *American Philosophical Association*, Pacific Division, March, 1991. (Commentator)

"Direct Reference and Reflexive Belief," *University of Rochester Conference on Belief*, May, 1991. (Commentator)

"Unbound Pronouns," *IX International Congress of Logic, Methodology, and Philosophy of Science*, Uppsala, Sweden, August, 1991.

"Unbound Pronouns," *American Philosophical Association*, Eastern Division, December, 1991.

"A reconsideration of an argument against compatibilism" (with David Johnson), *American Philosophical Association*, Central Division, April 28, 1995.

"Reference and Belief," invited address, *American Philosophical Association*, Central Division, May, 1998.

"Essentialism wins," invited comments, *Metaphysical Mayhem V*, August, 2000.

"Plurals, Quantifiers and Non-Distributive Predication," University of Massachusetts, October, 2003.

"Plurals, Quantifiers and Non-Distributive Predication," University of Minnesota, November 2003.

"Plurals, Quantifiers and Non-Distributive Predication," Cornell University, April 2004.

"Plurals, Quantifiers and Non-Distributive Predication," Syracuse University Linguistics Colloquium Series, February 2005.

Service to the Profession:

Vice President of the Creighton Club (The New York Philosophical Association), 1976-78.

President of the Creighton Club, 1978-80.

Chairman at American Philosophical Association colloquia, December, 1983, and April, 1985.

Member of editorial board for a special issue of the American Philosophical Association Newsletter on Teaching Philosophy (1985).

Chairman at Syracuse University Linguistic Studies Conference Colloquia, April, 1985, and April, 1986.

Chairman at New York State Council on Linguistics Colloquium, November, 1985.

Referee for *Journal of Philosophical Logic*, *Philosophical Studies*, *Notre Dame Journal of Formal Logic*, *Noûs*, Princeton University Press, Canada Council, State University of New York Press, Society for Philosophy and Psychology, *Philosophy and*

Phenomenological Research, Linguistics and Philosophy, Journal of Philosophical Research, Journal of Logic, Language, and Information, Philosophical Quarterly, Oxford University Press.

Promotion and tenure referee for several universities.

Service (1980-):

Department:

Graduate Admissions Committee (1981-82)

Director of Graduate Studies (1984-89, 1994-95)

Ex officio: Graduate Admissions, Executive Committee, Curriculum Committee (1984-89, 1994-95)

Philosophy of Science Position Search Committee (1986-87)

Director of Graduate Admissions and Recruitment (1990-92)

Executive Committee (1991)

Acting Director of Graduate Studies (1992)

Teaching Mentor (1992-)

Placement Committee (1992-95, 1998)

Chair of Promotion Subcommittee (1993)

Academic Advisor to graduate students (1992-93)

Chair (1995-2002) (This includes much *ex officio* committee service in the Department and in the College, and participation in meetings and workshops at the University level. Also, supervising hiring and making most other personnel decisions, supervising office staff, scheduling, assigning departmental administrative jobs, supervising TAs and mentoring new faculty are some of the other associated tasks, in addition to general planning and liaison with the College and University administrations.)

Undergraduate advisor, 2003-2005.

Departmental search committees, 2003-2004, 2004-2005 (chair), 2005-2006.

Director of Graduate Studies, 2005- .

Departmental self-evaluation: chaired sub-committee. 2006-2007.

Interdisciplinary Linguistic Studies Program:

Undergraduate Program Committee (1982-89)

Logic and Language M.A. Program Committee (1982-).

Concentration advisor (1982-).
Intellectual Resources Committee (1982-89), Chairman (1984-86)

College and University:

Undergraduate Academic Advising (1973-1980, 1981-84)
Syracuse Semester in Italy: Resident Director (1980-81)
Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee (1979-80, 1981-82)
Coordination of the cluster *On Human Nature* (1979-89)
Director of the logic concentration (1983-89, 1990-)
Soling Advisory Committee (1983, 1986-87)
International Programs Committee (Arts and Sciences) (1983-87, 1990-)
Windfall Selection Committee (Soling Program) (1984-1985)
Graduate Awards Committee (1984-86)
Participant in Soling "Talking Education" Seminar 1985)
DIPA Admissions Committee (1985)
Chancellor's Citation Selection Committee (1985-86)
Humanities Ph.D. Review Committee (1985-86)
Assistant and consultant for a DIPA travelling program (one week) in Italy (1989)
Gateway Committee (1987- 2005)
Workshops on teaching critical thinking for Teaching Assistants' Training Program (1990 and 1991)
Dean's Committee on College Priorities (1991-92)
Assessment Task Force (1992-93)
Humanities PhD comprehensive examination evaluation (1993)
Committee on Quantitative Skills Requirement (1993-94)
Wasserstrom (Graduate Teaching) Prize Committee (1997 and 1998)
Participant in Tolley Professor's Minnowbrook retreat (1997)
Graduate School Academic Planning Committee (1999-2000)
Participant in FPP Minnowbrook retreat (1989, 2003 and probably another time in between)
College Promotion and Tenure Committee (2000-2002, 2004-2005, 2006-2007)
University Senate (2001-2002, 2003-2007) Committee on Research.
Outstanding Teaching Assistant selection committee (Spring 2006).
Reader for Honor's thesis. 2006
Future Professoriate Program departmental liaison (1992-2008)
A&S Dean Search committee (2007-2008)

Grants Received (since 1989):

American Council of Learned Societies Fellowship (1989-90)

National Research Council Travel Grant (1991)