

SAMUEL REIS-DENNIS

Rice University
Department of Philosophy
6100 Main Street
Houston, TX 77005

SamuelReisDennis.com
sr110@rice.edu

Employment

Department of Philosophy, Rice University – Houston, TX
Assistant Professor

July 2022 – Present

Alden March Bioethics Institute, Albany Medical College – Albany, NY
Assistant Professor

August 2019 – May 2022

Berman Institute of Bioethics, Johns Hopkins University – Baltimore, MD
Hecht-Levi Postdoctoral Fellow

August 2017 – June 2019

Education

University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill, NC

Ph.D. in Philosophy

May 2017

- Thesis: “On the Hook: Responsibility in Real Life”
- Committee: Susan Wolf (chair), Thomas E. Hill, Jr., Douglas MacLean, Geoffrey Sayre-McCord, Rebecca Walker

M.A. in Philosophy

May 2013

- Thesis: “Blame”
- Committee: Thomas E. Hill, Jr. (chair), Gerald Postema, Ryan Preston-Roedder

Cornell University - Ithaca, NY

Bachelor of Arts, Philosophy, Magna Cum Laude

May 2010

- Honors Thesis Supervisor: Derk Pereboom

Areas of Specialization

Ethics, Moral Psychology, Bioethics, Free Will and Responsibility

Areas of Competence

History of Ethics, Metaethics

Publications

- *Edited Book*
 - *Morality in Its Place: Essays on the Work of Susan Wolf*, co-editor with Vida Yao (Routledge, under contract)
- *General Philosophy Journals*
 - “Blame’s Topography: Standing on Uneven Ground,” *Philosophers’ Imprint*, forthcoming

- “Guilt: The Debt and the Stain,” *Oxford Studies in Philosophy of Mind*, forthcoming
- “Rank Offense: The Ecological Theory of Resentment,” *Mind* 130(520): 1233-1251, 2021
- “‘I Love Women’: An Explicit Explanation of Implicit Bias Test Results,” with Vida Yao, *Synthese* 199(5-6): 13861-13882, 2021
- “Anger: Scary Good,” *The Australasian Journal of Philosophy* 97(3): 451-464, 2019
- “Responsibility and the Shallow Self,” *Philosophical Studies* 175(2): 483-501, 2018
- *Applied Ethics Journals*
 - “Patient Advocacy and Patient Rights,” with Elizabeth Reis, *Hastings Center Report*, forthcoming
 - “Disrespect for Deontology,” *American Journal of Bioethics* 24 (9):56-58, 2024
 - “Dignity and the Founding Myth of Bioethics,” *Hastings Center Report* 53(2): 26-35, 2023
 - “Death Row Organ Donation, Revisited,” with Laura Hansman, *Bioethics* 37(6): 575-580, 2023
 - “Rationing Ventilators,” with Megan Applewhite, in *Difficult Decisions in Surgical Ethics*, edited by Vassyl Lonchyna, Peggy Kelley, and Peter Angelos (Springer, 2022), 503-518
 - “The Irrelevance of Data to the Ethics of Infant Intersex Surgery,” with Elizabeth Reis, *Journal of Pediatric Ethics* 1(4): 162-164, 2021
 - “Are Conscientious Objectors Morally Obligated to Refer?,” with Abram Brummett, *Journal of Medical Ethics* 48(8): 547-550, 2021
 - “The Ethics of Vaccine Allocation,” with Megan Applewhite, *Immunological Investigations* 50(7): 857-867, 2021
 - “Tolerance for Uncertainty and Professional Development: A Normative Analysis,” (with Martha Gerrity and Gail Geller), *Journal of General Internal Medicine* 36(8): 2408-2413, 2021
 - “The Ethics of Elective Growth Hormone Therapy in Children with Idiopathic Short Stature,” (with Kevin Kecskemeti (first author)), *Journal of Clinical Ethics* 32(3): 206-214, 2021
 - “The Need for a Unified Ethical Stance on Child Genital Cutting,” (with Brian Earp (first author), Arianne Shahvisi, and Elizabeth Reis), *Nursing Ethics* 28(7-8): 1294-1305, 2021
 - “Understanding Autonomy: An Urgent Intervention,” *Journal of Law and the Biosciences* 1(7): 1-10, 2020
 - “Rehabilitating Blame,” in *Ethics and Error in Medicine*, edited by Fritz Allhoff and Sandra Borden (Routledge, 2019), 55-68
 - “‘What’s in a name?’: The University of Oregon, De-Naming Controversies, and the Ethics of Public Memory,” with Matthew Dennis, *Oregon Historical Quarterly* 120(2): 176-205, 2019
 - “What ‘Just Culture’ Doesn’t Understand About Just Punishment,” *Journal of Medical Ethics* 44(11): 739-742, 2018

- “Freezing Eggs and Creating Patients: Moral Risks of Commercialized Fertility,” with Elizabeth Reis, *The Hastings Center Report* (s3): 41-45, 2017
- “Are Physicians Blameworthy for Iatrogenic Harm Resulting from Unnecessary Genital Surgeries?,” with Elizabeth Reis, *American Medical Association Journal of Ethics* 19(8): 825-833, 2017
- *Reviews*
 - *The Limits of Free Will* by Paul Russell, *Journal of Moral Philosophy* 18(5): 531-533, 2021
 - *Rethinking Health Care Ethics* by Stephen Scher and Kasia Kozłowska, *Monash Bioethics Review* 38(1): 83-86, 2020

Honors, Awards, and Fellowships

- Albany Medical College Junior Faculty Development Program (2020-21)
- MAP Ethicist Prize for “‘I Love Women’: The Conceptual Adequacy of Implicit Bias” (awarded at 2017 Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress; shared with Vida Yao)
- Mellon/ACLS Dissertation Completion Fellowship (Accepted for 2016-17 academic year)
- Charlotte W. Newcombe Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship (Awarded but declined for 2016-17 academic year)
- UNC Graduate School Dissertation Completion Fellowship (Awarded but declined for 2016-17 academic year)
- UNC Graduate School Mellon Fellowship (2011-16)
- Parr Center for Ethics Research Assistantship (2014-2015)
- Horace Williams Fellowship (2012-2014)

Presentations

- “Satisfaction”; Wake Forest University; fall 2024
- “The Need for Elevation”; Cornell University; fall 2024
- “Satisfaction”; MANCEPT workshop on “Setting Things Right”; University of Manchester, UK; fall 2024
- “Competing Images of Clinical Ethics Consultation”; Rice University Medical Humanities Research Institute Workshop; Paris; summer 2024
- “Blame’s Topography: Standing on Uneven Ground”; Vrije Universiteit, Amsterdam; summer 2024
- “Enthusiasm Over the Night”; Medical College of Wisconsin; spring 2024
- “The Need for Elevation”; University of Pittsburgh; spring 2024
- “Elevation and Dignity”; University of Edinburgh; summer 2023
- “Guilt: The Debt and the Stain”; Humanistic Ethics Workshop; King’s College, London; summer 2023
- “Guilt: The Debt and the Stain”; Workshop in Honor of Susan Wolf; Rice University; spring 2023
- “Guilt: The Debt and the Stain”; Rice University Workshop in Philosophy of Mind; spring 2023
- “Against Shared Decision Making”; Rhode Island Hospital/Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University; spring 2023

- “Against Shared Decision Making”; ASBH; Portland, OR; fall 2022
- “How Righteous is Indignation?”; Gothenburg Workshop on Moral Responsibility and Third-Party Blame; Gothenburg, Sweden; summer, 2022
- “Elevation and Dignity”; University at Albany, SUNY; spring 2022
- “Dignity and the Founding Myth of Bioethics”; The Hastings Center; spring 2022
- “Elevation and Dignity”; Rice University; spring, 2022
- “Elevation and Dignity”; Cambridge University; fall, 2021
- “Dignity and the Founding Myth of Bioethics”; ASBH (virtual); selected as the featured presentation of the Philosophy Affinity Group; fall, 2021
- “A Non-Consequentialist Argument for Death Row Organ Donation” (with Laura Hansman); ASBH (virtual); fall, 2021
- “Pediatric Intersex Surgery and Human Rights” (with Elizabeth Reis); ASBH (virtual); fall, 2021
- “Dignity and the Founding Myth of Bioethics”; Oakland University; spring 2021
- “Remembrance and Resilience in the Wake of Medical Error”; ASBH; Pittsburgh, PA; fall, 2019
- “Egg Freezing and Autonomy”; ASBH; Pittsburgh, PA; fall, 2019
- “Freezing Eggs and Creating Patients: Moral Risks of Commercialized Fertility” (with Elizabeth Reis); Albany Medical College Reproductive Ethics Conference; Albany, NY; spring 2019
- “Culpable Unresentables”; Pacific Division Meeting of the APA; Vancouver, BC; spring 2019
- “A Theoretical Challenge for Implicit Bias Research” (with Vida Yao); Central Division Meeting of the APA; Denver, CO; winter, 2019
- “Rehabilitating Blame”; Alden March Bioethics Institute; winter 2018
- “Rehabilitating Blame”; Western Michigan University Medical Humanities Conference; Kalamazoo, MI; fall, 2018
- “Medical Error: A Call to Listen”; Medical Error Mini-Conference at meeting of the Association of Practical and Professional Ethics; Chicago, IL; spring, 2018
- “Rehabilitating Blame”; University of Texas, San Antonio; winter 2018
- “Anger: Scary Good”; Eastern Division Meeting of the APA; Savannah, GA; winter, 2018
- “‘I Love Women’: The Conceptual Inadequacy of ‘Implicit Bias’” (with Vida Yao); Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress (RoME); Boulder, CO; summer 2017 (Winner of the MAP Ethicist Prize for most meritorious paper regarding philosophy of gender, race, sexual orientation, class, disability, native language, etc.)
- “Anger: Scary Good”; Vancouver Summer Philosophy Conference at the University of British Columbia; Vancouver, BC; summer, 2017
- “Responsibility and the Shallow Self”; Pacific Division Meeting of the APA; Seattle, WA; spring, 2017
- “Anger: Scary Good”; Rice Humanistic Ethics Workshop at Rice University; spring, 2017
- “Rehabilitating Blame: Responding to Medical Error”; Children’s Mercy Hospital, Center for Bioethics; Kansas City, MO; winter, 2017
- “Responsibility and the Shallow Self”; Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress (RoME); Boulder, CO; summer 2016

- “How Not To Argue About Blame”; Wittgensteinian Approaches to Moral Philosophy conference at Leuven University; Leuven, Belgium; fall, 2016
- “Reality Television and Moral Philosophy”; Conference of the Southwest Popular/American Culture Association; Albuquerque, NM; spring, 2015

Teaching

- *Rice University*
 - Philosophy
 - Non-Consequentialist Ethics (fall, 2023)
 - Dissertation Research Seminar (fall, 2023)
 - Medical Ethics (spring, 2023)
 - Freedom, Value, and Love (fall, 2022)
 - Medical Humanities
 - Ethics and the Human Body (spring, 2024)
 - Ethical Debates in Medicine (spring, 2023, spring 2024)
 - Other
 - Mellon Dissertation Writing Seminar (fall, 2023)
- *Albany Medical College*
 - Philosophical Foundations of Bioethics (summer, 2021)
 - Fundamentals of Clinical Ethics (fall, 2020, spring 2020)
 - Health, Care, and Society I (2019, 2020, 2021, 2022)
 - Health, Care, and Society II (2019, 2020, 2021, 2022)
 - Ethics of Internal Medicine (2021, 2022)
 - Ethics of Pediatrics (2019, 2020, 2021, 2022)
 - Ethics of Intensive Care (2019, 2020, 2021)
 - Ethics of Hospice Care (2019)
- *Johns Hopkins University*
 - Basics of Bioethics (summer, 2018)
 - Foundations of Bioethics for Masters of Bioethics Students (fall, 2017)
- *University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill*
 - Introduction to Philosophy, Main Problems (summer, 2016)
 - Ethics in Practice (fall, 2015)
 - Bioethics (spring, 2014)
 - Bioethics (fall, 2013)
 - Introduction to Ethics (Teaching Assistant, spring, 2013)
 - Making Sense of Ourselves (Teaching Assistant, 2012)

Professional Activities & Services

- Member, Sinai Hospital (Baltimore) Ethics Committee (2018-2019, 2025-)
- Member, Sinai Hospital (Baltimore) Ethics Consult Team (2018-2019, 2025-)
- Member, Faculty Search Committee for Medical Humanities, Rice University (2024)
- Director of Graduate Studies, Rice University Department of Philosophy (2023-)
- Director of Graduate Admissions, Rice University Department of Philosophy (2023-)

- Member, Medical Humanities Research Institute Steering Committee, Rice University (2023-)
- Chair, Speaker Series Committee, Rice University Department of Philosophy (2023)
- Member, Baruch A. Brody Lecture in Bioethics Selection Committee (2022-)
- Member, Medical Humanities Steering Committee, Rice University (2022-)
- Member, Graduate Admissions Committee, Rice University Department of Philosophy (2022-)
- Director, Clinical Ethics Fellowship Program, Alden March Bioethics Institute (2021-2022)
- Clinical Ethics Consultant, Albany Medical Center (2019-2022)
- Co-Lead, Albany Medical Center Covid-19 Resource Allocation Committee, (2020-2022)
- Member, Albany Medical Center Complex Case Review Committee (2019-2022)
- Member, Albany Medical Center Ethics Review Committee (2019-2022)
- Member, Albany Medical Center Patient Grievance Committee (2019-2022)
- Member, Albany Medical Center Neonatal ICU Ethics Group (2019-2021)
- Member, Albany Medical Center Kidney Transplant Committee (2019-2020)
- Advisor, Talia's Voice (patient safety and advocacy non-profit) (2017-)
- Member, Empire State Bioethics Consortium (2021-2022)
- Coach, UNC Collegiate Ethics Bowl Team (2014-2016)
- National High School Ethics Bowl Case Writing Team (2014-2020)
- UNC Philosophy Hiring Committee, Graduate Student Representative (2015-2016)
- UNC Philosophy Graduate Committee (2015-2016)
- President, UNC Philosophy Graduate Students (2014-2015)
- Research Assistant, Parr Center for Ethics (2014-2015)
- Philosophy Outreach at Durham Academy (2014-2017)
- Judge, National High School Ethics Bowl (2012-2017)
- Judge, North Carolina Regional High School Ethics Bowl (2012-2017)
- Led Philosophy Discussion Group at C.A. Dillon Youth Correctional Facility (2011-2013)
- Member, American Philosophical Association
- Referee: *Ethics, The Australasian Journal of Philosophy, Philosophers' Imprint, Philosophy and Phenomenological Research, Philosophical Quarterly, Philosophical Studies, Synthese, Ergo, Canadian Journal of Philosophy, Journal of the American Philosophical Association, Journal of Ethics, Journal of Medical Ethics, Perspectives in Biology and Medicine, Journal of Moral Philosophy, Philosophia, Journal of Bioethical Inquiry, Philosophia, Bioethics, Journal of Law and the Biosciences*, Johns Hopkins Press, Rowman and Littlefield

Students Supervised

- Rice University
 - Stephanie Kim, undergraduate honors thesis, primary supervisor, 2024
- Albany Medical College
 - Isabelle DeRoy, DPS in bioethics, primary supervisor, 2022
 - Christina Achebe, DPS in bioethics, third reader, 2022
 - Alyson LaPan, MS in bioethics, primary supervisor, 2022

- Julia Romano, medical student distinction in bioethics thesis, primary supervisor, 2022
- Stephen Parks, DPS in bioethics, primary supervisor, 2021
- Marsha Green, DPS in bioethics, primary supervisor, 2021
- Eric Brown, MS in bioethics, primary supervisor, 2021
- Cristel Giglio, MS in bioethics, second reader, 2021
- Aadya Kaushik, MS in bioethics, second reader, 2021
- Kevin Keckskemeti, MS in bioethics, primary supervisor, 2020
- Derrick Pemberton, MS in bioethics, primary supervisor, 2020
- Andrew Cyr, medical student distinction in bioethics thesis, primary supervisor, 2020
- Laura Hansman, medical student distinction in bioethics thesis, primary supervisor, 2020

References

Philosophy

Susan Wolf
Edna J. Koury Distinguished Professor
 Department of Philosophy
 UNC, Chapel Hill
 (919) 962-3315
 susanw@email.unc.edu

Thomas E. Hill, Jr.
Kenan Distinguished Professor
 Department of Philosophy
 UNC, Chapel Hill
 (919) 962-3326
 thill@email.unc.edu

Derk Pereboom
Susan Linn Sage Professor of Philosophy
Senior Associate Dean for Arts & Humanities
 Cornell University
 (607)-255-3689
 dp346@cornell.edu

Douglas MacLean
Professor of Philosophy
 Department of Philosophy
 UNC, Chapel Hill
 (919) 843-4500
 maclean@unc.edu

Bioethics

Jeffrey Kahn
Andreas C. Dracopoulos Director
 Berman Institute of Bioethics
 Johns Hopkins University
 (410) 614-5679
 jeffkahn@jhu.edu

Gail Geller
Professor of Medicine
 Berman Institute of Bioethics
 Johns Hopkins University
 (410) 614-5556
 ggeller@jhu.edu