

SAMUEL REIS-DENNIS

Rice University
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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*
 - “Guilt: The Debt and the Stain,” *Oxford Studies in Philosophy of Mind*, forthcoming

- “Rank Offence: 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* (open peer commentary in response to Pierson et al., “Bioethicists Today,”), forthcoming
 - “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

- “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, Faculty Search Committee for Medical Humanities, Rice University (2024)
- Director of Graduate Studies, 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)
- Member, Sinai Hospital (Baltimore) Ethics Committee (2018-2019)
- Member, Sinai Hospital (Baltimore) Ethics Consult Team (2018-2019)
- 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*, *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*, *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 Kecskemeti, 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

UNC, Chapel Hill

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Thomas E. Hill, Jr.
Kenan Distinguished Professor
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Douglas MacLean
Professor of Philosophy
(919) 843-4500
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Geoffrey Sayre-McCord (Teaching Reference)
Morehead-Cain Alumni Distinguished Professor
(919) 627-1403
sayre-mccord@unc.edu

Johns Hopkins University

Jeffrey Kahn
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Berman Institute of Bioethics
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Gail Geller
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