

Robert Lane, Ph.D.
updated March 8, 2024

Education

Ph.D., Philosophy, University of Miami, 1998.
B.A., Philosophy, University of Alabama at Birmingham, 1992.
B.A., Psychology, Samford University, 1990.

Academic Appointments

University of West Georgia, Philosophy Program, Visiting Assistant Professor (2002–2003); Assistant Professor (2003–2007); Associate Professor (2007–2012); Professor (2012 –).

Editorial Appointments

Transactions of the Charles S. Peirce Society, Indiana University Press. Associate Editor, Peirce submissions (2010–2011); Editor, Peirce submissions (2011 –).

Publications

Books

(Editor) *Pragmatism Revisited*, Cambridge University Press (under contract).
Peirce on Realism and Idealism, Cambridge University Press, 2018.
(Associate Editor) *Pragmatism: Old and New*, ed. Susan Haack. Prometheus Books, 2006.

Invited Chapters and Articles

“Peirce on Reality and Existence,” in *The Oxford Handbook of Charles S. Peirce*, ed. Cornelis de Waal, Oxford University Press, 2024.
“Susan Haack and Worldly, Realist Pragmatism,” in *The Routledge Companion to Pragmatism*, ed. Scott Aikin and Robert Talisse, Routledge, 2023.
“Truth as Representation, not Will: How Peirce’s Modest Correspondence Theory Can Complement Haack’s Innocent Realism,” *Cosmos + Taxis* 8 (4+5), 2020.
“A Sharply Drawn Horizon’: Peirce and Other Correspondence Theorists,” *Transactions of the Charles S. Peirce Society* 54 (3), 2018.
“Against Pretend Evidence,” in *Charles Sanders Peirce in His Own Words: 100 Years of Semiotics, Communication and Cognition*, ed. Torkild Thellefsen, Mouton de Gruyter, 2014.
“Peircean Semiotic Indeterminacy and Its Relevance for Biosemiotics,” in *Peirce and Biosemiotics*, ed. Vinicius Romanini, Springer, 2014.
“Peirception: Haack’s Critical Common-sensism about Perception,” in *Susan Haack: A Lady of Distinctions. The Philosopher Responds to Her Critics*, ed. Cornelis de Waal, Prometheus Books, Amherst, NY, 2007.

Refereed Journal Articles

“The Final Incapacity: Peirce on Intuition and the Continuity of Mind and Matter, Part II,” *Cognitio* 12 (2), July-December 2011.
“The Final Incapacity: Peirce on Intuition and the Continuity of Mind and Matter, Part I,” *Cognitio* 12 (1), January-June 2011.
“Persons, Signs, Animals: A Peircean Account of Personhood,” *Transactions of the Charles S. Peirce Society* 45 (1), Winter 2009.
“Peirce’s Modal Shift: From Set Theory to Pragmatism,” *Journal of the History of Philosophy* 45 (4), October 2007.
“Synechistic Bioethics: How a Peircean Views the Abortion Debate,” *Contemporary Pragmatism* 3 (2), December 2006.
“Safety, Identity and Consent: A Limited Defense of Reproductive Human Cloning,” *Bioethics* 20 (3), June 2006.
“On Peirce’s Early Realism,” *Transactions of the Charles S. Peirce Society* 40 (4), Fall 2004.
“Why I Was Never a Zygote,” *Southern Journal of Philosophy* 41 (1), 2003.
“Peirce’s Triadic Logic Revisited,” *Transactions of the Charles S. Peirce Society* 35 (2), Spring 1999.
“Why Bacon’s Method is not Certain,” *History of Philosophy Quarterly* 16 (2), April 1999.
“Peirce’s ‘Entanglement’ with the Principles of Excluded Middle and Contradiction,” *Transactions of the Charles S. Peirce Society* 33 (3), Summer 1997.

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Book Reviews

- Peirce's Theory of Signs* by T. L. Short, Cambridge University Press, 2007, in the *Journal of the History of Philosophy* 46(4), October 2008.
- Playing God? Human Genetic Engineering and the Rationalization of Public Bioethical Debate* by John H. Evans, University of Chicago Press, 2002, in *Nature Biotechnology* 20, July 2002.
- Voodoo Science* by Robert Park, Oxford University Press, 2000, in *Knowledge, Technology and Policy* 13(2), Summer 2000.
- Manifesto of a Passionate Moderate* by Susan Haack, University of Chicago Press, 1998, in *Knowledge, Technology and Policy* 12(4), Winter 2000.

Other Publications

- Contributions to Syndicate Philosophy Symposium on Lane, *Peirce on Realism and Idealism*: responses to commentary by Diana Heney (Vanderbilt), Andrew Howat (Cal State Fullerton), and Jeff Kasser (Colorado State), 2019, available at <https://syndicate.network/symposia/philosophy/peirce-on-realism-and-idealism/>
- "Evidence," in *American Philosophy: An Encyclopedia*, eds. John Lachs and Robert Talisse. New York: Routledge, 2007.
- "James Kern Feibleman" and "Arthur Edward Murphy," in *The Dictionary of Modern American Philosophers, 1860-1960*, ed. John Shook. Thoemmes Press, 2005.
- "Principles of Excluded Middle and Contradiction" and "Triadic Logic," in *The Digital Encyclopedia of Charles S. Peirce*, January 2001, available at <http://www.digitalpeirce.fee.unicamp.br>.

Honors and Awards

Student Government Association "Faculty Member of the Year" (UWG College of Arts and Humanities) Award, 2012-2013.

Grants and Funding

Faculty Research Grant, State University of West Georgia ("Peirce's Modal Shift: From Set Theory to Pragmatism," \$1,370), 2004-05

Invited Talks

- Replies to Critics, "Author Meets Critics: Robert Lane, *Peirce on Realism and Idealism*," online event sponsored by the Charles S. Peirce Society, February 4, 2021.
- "Peirce's Pragmatic Conception of Reality," Keynote Address, Seventh Annual Southeast Philosophy Congress, Clayton State University, February 21, 2014.
- "Safety, Identity and Consent: A Limited Defense of Reproductive Human Cloning," Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University Philosophy Department Colloquium Series, October 29, 2004.

Conference Activity

Conferences Organized

2014 Charles S. Peirce International Centennial Congress, University of Massachusetts Lowell, July 2014: Steering Committee, International Organizing Committee, Budget Committee, Fund-Raising Committee, and Publicity Committee.

Papers Presented

- "The Role of Reality in James's Account of Truth," meeting of the Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy, Boston, MA, March 29, 2024.
- "Pragmatism as Authoritarianism: Russell's Criticism of James Revisited," meeting of the Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy, Denver, CO, March 10, 2023.
- "The Arbitrament of the Big Battalions': Russell's Warning and Peirce's Pragmatism," contribution to session titled "Pragmatism in the Darkest Timeline," Canadian Philosophical Association, Vancouver, BC, June 2, 2019.
- "The Truth as Will or Representation: Realism in the Post-Truth Era," contribution to session titled "Charles S. Peirce and Susan Haack: A Philosophical Legacy," American Philosophical Association (Central Division), Denver, CO, February 21, 2019.
- "A Sharply Drawn Horizon': Peirce and Other Correspondence Theorists," contribution to Author Meets Critics session on Cheryl Misak's *Cambridge Pragmatism*, American Philosophical Association (Pacific Division), San Diego, CA, March 29, 2018.

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- “Peirce’s Basic Realism and Basic Idealism,” meeting of the British Society for the History of Philosophy, University of Sheffield, England, April 7, 2017.
- “Peirce’s Theory of Truth: the Real Story,” session of the Charles S. Peirce Society, American Philosophical Association (Eastern Division), Washington, D. C., January 7, 2016.
- “Peirce’s Representationalist Theory of Truth” (discussion paper), meeting of the Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy, Grand Rapids, MI, March 2015.
- “Peirce on Semiotic and Metaphysical Indeterminacy,” meeting of the Semiotic Society of America, Louisville, KY, October 22, 2010.
- “The Second Incapacity: Peirce’s Denial of Intuition,” meeting of the Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy, Charlotte, NC, March 13, 2010.
- “The Second Incapacity: Peirce’s Denial of Intuition,” meeting of the Georgia Philosophical Society, Atlanta GA, November 14, 2009.
- “Vague Identity and Cut-Offs: Two Problems with Priest’s Solution to the Non-Standard Sorites,” meeting of the Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology, Savannah, GA, April 9-11, 2009.
- “Peirce-onhood: Persons as Semiotic Animals,” meeting of the Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy, East Lansing, MI, March 14, 2008.
- “Peirceonhood: A Neo-Peircean Account of Personhood,” International Conference on Persons, Asheville, NC, August 3, 2007.
- “Synechistic Bioethics: A Peircean Approach to the Morality of Abortion,” meeting of the Georgia Philosophical Society, Atlanta GA, March 18, 2006.
- “Synechistic Bioethics: A Peircean Approach to the Morality of Abortion,” meeting of the Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy, San Antonio, TX, March 9-11, 2006.
- “Oak Trees and Ashes: an Argument that Identity is Vague and Non-Transitive,” meeting of the American Philosophical Association, New York, NY, December 30, 2005.
- “Oak Trees and Ashes: an Argument that Identity is Vague and Non-Transitive,” meeting of the Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology, Durham, NC, March 24, 2005.
- “Oak Trees and Ashes: an Argument that Identity is Vague and Non-Transitive,” Mid-South Philosophy Conference, Memphis, TN, February 19, 2005.
- “Getting Clear on Peirce’s Early Realism,” meeting of the Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology, New Orleans, LA, April 8-10, 2004.
- “Peirce’s Early Realism,” meeting of the Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy, Birmingham, AL, March 4-6, 2004.
- “Safety, Identity and Consent: A Limited Defense of Reproductive Human Cloning,” meeting of the Tennessee Philosophical Association, Nashville, TN, October 31-November 1, 2003.
- “Are We Waiting in the Wings Before Conception?” meeting of the Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology, April 17-19, Atlanta, GA, 2003.
- “Are We Waiting in the Wings Before Conception?” meeting of the Georgia Philosophical Society, University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia, April 5, 2003.
- “*Peirception*: Critical Common-Sensism about Perception,” meeting of the Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy, University of Southern Maine, Portland, Maine, March 7-9, 2002.
- “Blocking the Way of Inquiry? Peirce’s Rejection of Bivalence,” meeting of the Georgia Philosophical Society, University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia, April 17, 1999.
- “Peirce’s Rejection of Information-Relative Possibility,” 25th Annual Meeting of the Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy, Marquette University, Milwaukee, March 5-7, 1998.
- “Peirce’s ‘Entanglement’ with the Principles of Excluded Middle and Contradiction,” meeting of the Charles S. Peirce Society, American Philosophical Association Eastern Division Ninety-Third Annual Meeting, Atlanta, Georgia, December 27-30, 1996.
- “Why Bacon’s Method is not Certain”, Florida Philosophical Association Annual Meeting, Tampa, Florida, November 9-11, 1995.

Discussant

- Comments on Juliana Acosta López de Mesa, “Peirce’s Philosophical Project from Chance to Evolutionary Love” and Jason Hills, “The Structure of Qualitative Thought,” meeting of the Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy, Spokane, WA, March 12, 2011.
- Comments on Jonathan Weidenbaum, “Transcendence, Pathos, and the Romance of Science,” and Celia Bardwell-Jones, “Politicizing Peirce’s Reason: Dependency and Care in the Training of Reasoning,” meeting of the Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy, College Station, Texas, March 12-14, 2009.

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- Comments on Richard A. S. Hall, "The Polytheism of William James," International Conference on Persons, Asheville, NC, August 3, 2007.
- Comments on Roger Ward, "Knowledge and Transformation in Peirce's *Reasoning and the Logic of Things*" and Lara Trout, "Colorblindness and Paper Doubt: A Sociopolitical Application of Critical Common-Sensism," meeting of the Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy, Columbia, South Carolina, March 8-10, 2007.
- Comments on Jonathan Weinberg, "Can Intuition be Attacked Without Risking Skepticism?," Mid-South Philosophy Conference, Memphis, TN, February 18-19, 2005.

Session Chair

- "Discussion Papers on Belief and Doubt," meeting of the Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy, Portland, OR, March 3, 2016.
- "Peirce and Sciences," meeting of the Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy, Denver, CO, March 6, 2014.
- Annual meeting of the Charles S. Peirce Society, at the Pacific Division American Philosophical Association meeting, Seattle, WA, April 5, 2012.
- Annual meeting of the Charles S. Peirce Society, at the Eastern Division American Philosophical Association meeting, New York, NY, December 28, 2009.
- "Philosophy of Language," meeting of the Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology, April 9-11, Savannah, GA, 2009.
- Annual meeting of the Charles S. Peirce Society, at the Eastern Division American Philosophical Association meeting, Philadelphia, PA, December 28, 2008.
- "Traditional Papers on Feminism and Liberation," meeting of the Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy, Bakersfield, CA, March 3-6, 2005.
- "Philosophy of Mind: Consciousness," meeting of the Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology, April 17-19, Atlanta, GA, 2003.
- "The Limits of Perversity: Rorty and Peirce on Thought and Language," meeting of the Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy, University of Colorado at Denver, Denver, Colorado, March 13-15, 2003.

Teaching Experience

Introduction to Philosophy	Political Philosophy
Introduction to Ethics	Professional Ethics
Critical Thinking	Seminar: Identity and Bioethics
American Philosophy	Seminar: Peirce
Analytic Philosophy	Seminar: Truth and Reality
Modern Philosophy	Symbolic Logic
Philosophy of Law	

Service to the Profession

Reviews of Journal Manuscripts

- Open Philosophy*, 2022 [1].
- Southern Journal of Philosophy*, 2022 [1].
- Journal for the Theory of Social Behavior*, 2021 [1], 2022 [1].
- British Journal of the History of Philosophy*, 2020 [1].
- Philosophia*, 2018–19 [1].
- European Journal of Pragmatism and American Philosophy*, 2017 [1], 2023 [1].
- Journal of the History of Philosophy*, 2008 [1], 2010 [1], 2014 [1], 2020 [1], 2023 [1].
- Philosophical Papers*, 2010 [1].
- Transactions of the Charles S. Peirce Society*, 2004 [1], 2007 [3], 2009 [1], 2010 [1].
- The Pluralist*, 2010 [1].
- History of Philosophy Quarterly*, 2010 [1].
- British Journal of the History of Philosophy*, 2008 [1].
- Bioethics*, 2006 [1].
- Journal of the History of Sexuality*, 2006 [1].
- Social Theory and Practice*, 2004 [1].

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Reviews of Book Proposals

Not One of the Boys: Essays in Honour of Susan Haack, for Routledge / Taylor & Francis Group, 2023.
Analytic Philosophy: An Interpretive History, from Frege to Quine, for Routledge, 2013.
Pragmatism: A Beginner's Guide, OneWorld Publications, 2009.
The Rorty Reader, Wiley, 2008.
Introduction to Ethics, Pearson, 2008.
Untitled introductory ethics text, Longman Publishers, 2006.
Ethics for AS by Noel Stewart, Polity Press, 2006
You and the State by Jan Narveson, Broadview Press, 2005
Morality and the Movies: Introducing Ethics Through Film ed. by Dan Shaw, Blackwell Publishing, 2003

Reviews of Book Manuscripts

T. L. Short, *Science in the Philosophy of Charles Peirce*, Cambridge University Press, 2021.
Lee McIntyre, *The Scientific Attitude*, MIT Press, 2018.
Richard Kenneth Atkins, *Charles S. Peirce's Phenomenology*, Oxford University Press, 2018.
James Rachels, *Elements of Moral Philosophy* (sixth ed., by Stuart Rachels) , 2011.
Russ Shafer-Landau, *The Fundamentals of Ethics*, Oxford University Press, 2010.
The Normative Thought of Charles S. Peirce, Fordham University Press, 2009.
Michael Boylan, *Basic Ethics*, Prentice-Hall, 2006.
Duncan Richter, *Why Be Good?*, Oxford University Press, 2006.

Other Reviews

External referee for candidate for tenure and promotion, Deakin University (Australia), 2019.
External referee for candidate for tenure and promotion, Boston College, 2018.
Internet Encyclopedia of Philosophy, 2008 [1].
Submissions to the annual meetings of the Society for Philosophy in the Contemporary World, 2005
[multiple], 2006 [multiple].

Service to the University of West Georgia

Administrative Appointments

Coordinator of the Philosophy Program, 2022–23.
Director of the Philosophy Program, 2010–2014; Acting Director, January–May, 2018.

Committee Memberships

College of Arts, Culture, and Scientific Inquiry Tenure and Promotion Committee (2022–24).
College of Arts, Culture, and Scientific Inquiry *Ad Hoc* Committee on Program Coordinator Responsibilities and Eligibility (chairperson, spring 2022).
Philosophy Program Lecturer Search Committee (chairperson, 2021–22).
College of Arts, Culture, and Scientific Inquiry *Ad Hoc* Structure Review Committee (2020–21).
College of Arts, Culture, and Scientific Inquiry Faculty Advisory Committee (2020–24).
College of Arts, Culture, and Scientific Inquiry General Education Committee (2020–24).
College of Arts, Culture, and Scientific Inquiry General Education Assessment Committee, Work Group for Area C (2020–22).
Dept. of English and Philosophy Chair Search Committee (2019–20).
College of Arts and Humanities General Education Assessment Committee, Work Group for Area C (2019–20).
College of Arts and Humanities Faculty Advisory Committee, 2018–20 (chairperson, 2018–19).
Philosophy Program Faculty Status Committee (chairperson, 2018–19; 2019–20; 2020–21).
College of Arts and Humanities *Ad Hoc* Theme Year Committee, 2017–18.
College of Arts and Humanities Promotion and Tenure Committee, 2016–18.
Faculty Senate Technology Committee, 2014–17.
College of Arts and Humanities Dean Search Committee, 2016–17.
College of Arts and Humanities Graduate Studies Subcommittee (of the COAH Executive Committee), 2013–16 (chairperson, 2014–2015).
Post Tenure Review Appeals Committee, representative for College of Arts and Humanities, 2013–2014.
BOR Academic Advisory Committee on Philosophy, 2003–2004; 2009–14 (chairperson, 2010–2013).

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Faculty Senate, representative for the College of Arts and Sciences, fall 2010; representative for the College of Arts and Humanities, spring 2011.
Faculty Senate Budget Committee, representative for the College of Arts and Sciences, 2009–2010; representative for the Faculty Senate, 2010–2011.
Search Committee for Interim Dean of the College of Arts and Humanities, 2010.
Faculty Senate Undergraduate Academic Programs Committee, representative for the College of Arts and Sciences, 2009–2010.
College of Arts and Sciences Associate Dean (Social Sciences) Search Committee, 2009.
Department of English and Philosophy Search Committee (for chairperson), 2009.
Department of English and Philosophy Faculty Advisory Committee, representative for the Philosophy Program, 2009–2010.
Department of English and Philosophy Faculty Status Committee, 2008– (chairperson, 2007–2008).
College of Arts and Sciences Writing Across the Curriculum Committee, 2007–2009.
University Committee on Alternative Dispute Resolution, 2005–2007.
Faculty Senate Learning Resources Committee, representative for the College of Arts and Sciences, 2004–06.

Faculty Advisor for Student Organizations

Phi Sigma Tau (National Honor Society in Philosophy), Georgia Iota Chapter, 2004–2014, 2023–24.
West Georgia Philosophical Society, 2003–2007, 2023–24.

Professional Memberships/Affiliations

American Association of University Professors, 2001– (executive committee, University of West Georgia chapter, 2008–13).
American Philosophical Association, Member, 1998–2009.
Charles S. Peirce Society, 1998– (Executive Committee, 2001–2014; Secretary-Treasurer, 2007–12).
Charles S. Peirce Foundation, Secretary-Treasurer, 2009– .
Semiotic Society of America, 2010–2011.
Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy, 2001– .
Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology, Member, 2003–2006, 2009–10.