

# David Braun

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## Education

- Ph.D. 1987, University of California, Los Angeles (Philosophy)
- M.A. 1981, University of California, Los Angeles (Philosophy)
- B.A. 1978, Pomona College (Philosophy)

## Academic Positions

- 2008-Present Professor of Philosophy, and Patrick and Edna J. Romanell Chair in Philosophy, SUNY University at Buffalo
- 2004-2008 Professor of Philosophy, University of Rochester
- 1996-2004 Associate Professor of Philosophy, University of Rochester
- 1989-1996 Assistant Professor of Philosophy, University of Rochester
- 1988-89 Assistant Professor of Philosophy, Chapman College, Orange, CA
- Spring 1988 Postdoctoral Research Affiliate in Cognitive Science, Stanford University
- Fall 1987 Visiting Assistant Professor of Philosophy, UCLA

## Areas of Specialization

Philosophy of Language, Philosophy of Mind

## Areas of Competence

Metaphysics, Logic

## Dissertation

*Content and Psychological Explanation.* Tyler Burge, director.

## Publications

### Articles

- “Proper Names, Cognitive Contents, and Beliefs,” *Philosophical Studies* 62 (1991), pp. 289-305.
- “Content, Causation, and Cognitive Science,” *Australasian Journal of Philosophy* 69 (1991), pp. 375-389.
- “Empty Names,” *Noûs* 27 (1993), pp. 449-469.
- “Structured Characters and Complex Demonstratives,” *Philosophical Studies* 74 (1994), pp. 193-219.
- “What Is Character?” *Journal of Philosophical Logic* 24 (1995), pp. 227-240.

- “Causally Relevant Properties,” *Philosophical Perspectives* 9 (1995), pp. 447-475.
- “Katz on Names Without Bearers,” *Philosophical Review* 104 (1995), pp. 553-575.
- “Demonstratives and Their Linguistic Meanings,” *Noûs* 30 (1996), pp. 145-173.
- “Understanding Belief Reports,” *Philosophical Review* 107 (1998), pp. 555-595.
- “Russellianism and Psychological Generalizations,” *Noûs* 34 (2000), pp. 203-36.
- “Russellianism and Prediction,” *Philosophical Studies* 105 (2001), pp. 59-105.
- “Indexicals,” *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy* (Fall 2001), Edward N. Zalta (ed.), URL=<http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/indexicals/>. Substantial revision for Fall 2007.
- “Russellianism and Explanation,” *Philosophical Perspectives* 15 (2001), pp. 253-289.
- “Cognitive Significance, Attitude Ascriptions, and Ways of Believing,” *Philosophical Studies* 108 (2002), pp. 65-81.
- “Simple Sentences, Substitutions, and Mistaken Evaluations” (with Jennifer Saul), *Philosophical Studies* 111 (2002), pp. 1-41.
- “Direct Reference,” *Encyclopedia of Cognitive Science* (2002), Vol. 1, pp. 972-6, L. Nadel (ed.), London: Nature Publishing Group.
- “Empty Names, Fictional Names, Mythical Names,” *Noûs* 39 (2005), pp. 596-631.
- “Dthat,” *Encyclopedia of Language and Linguistics*, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition (2006), pp. 796-7.
- “Demonstratives,” *Encyclopedia of Philosophy*, 2nd edition (2006), Donald Borchert (ed.). Detroit: Macmillan Reference USA.
- “Kripke’s Revenge” (with Theodore Sider), *Philosophical Studies* 128 (2006), pp. 669-682.
- “Illogical, But Rational,” *Noûs* 40 (2006), pp. 376-379.
- “Now You Know Who Hong Oak Yun Is,” *Philosophical Issues* 16 (2006), pp. 24-42.
- “Names and Natural Kind Terms,” *The Oxford Handbook of Philosophy of Language*, Ernest Lepore and Barry Smith (Eds.), Oxford University Press (2006), pp. 490-515.
- “Vague, So Untrue” (with Theodore Sider), *Noûs* 41 (2007), 133-156.
- “Problems for a Quantificational Theory of Complex Demonstratives,” *Philosophical Studies* 140 (2008), 335-358.
- “Complex Demonstratives and Their Singular Contents,” *Linguistics and Philosophy* 31 (2008), 57-99.
- “Persisting Problems for a Quantificational Theory of Complex Demonstratives,” *Philosophical Studies* 141 (2008), 243-262.

#### *Short Reviews*

- Review of Eddy Zemach, *The Reality of Meaning and the Meaning of ‘Reality’*, *Philosophical Review* 103 (1994), pp. 148-150.
- Review of Michael Devitt, *Coming to Our Senses, Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* 60 (2000), pp. 489-92.

#### *Long Reviews*

- Review of David Austin, *What’s the Meaning of ‘This’?* and Palle Yourgrau (Ed.), *Demonstratives, Minds and Machines* 7 (1997), pp. 297-302.

Review of Scott Soames, *Beyond Rigidity*, *Linguistics and Philosophy* 26 (2003), pp. 365-378.

Review of Michael Thau, *Consciousness and Cognition*, *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* 64 (2004), pp. 484-491.

### **In Submission**

“Implicating Questions,” for *Asserting, Meaning, and Implying*, Martin Hackl and Robert Thornton (Eds.), Oxford University Press.

“Wondering About Witches,” for *Essays on Empty Names*, Harry Deutsch and Anthony Everett (Eds.), Oxford University Press.

“Knowing How and Knowing Answers,” for *Knowing How*, edited by Marc Moffett and John Bengson, Oxford University Press.

### **In Progress**

“Hob, Nob, and Mythical Witches”

“An Invariantist Theory of ‘Might’ Might Be Right”

*Questions, Answers, and Knowing Who*

*Logical Methods in Philosophy* (logic textbook)

### **Presentations**

#### *Refereed Conference Talks*

“The Cognitive Content of Proper Names,” Creighton Club (New York State Philosophical Association), April 1990.

“Perry on Cognitive Significance,” Pacific APA, March 1991.

“Empty Names, Beliefs, and Direct Reference,” Pacific APA, March 1993.

“What Is Character?,” Pacific APA, March 1995.

“Demonstratives and Their Linguistic Meanings,” Pacific APA, April 1996.

“Understanding Belief Reports,” Pacific APA, March 1998.

“Russellianism and Psychological Generalizations,” Pacific APA, April 1999.

“Vagueness and Truth,” (with Theodore Sider), Creighton Club, October 2002.

“Hob, Nob, and Mythical Witches,” Barcelona Workshop 6 on Issues in the Theory of Reference: Reference and Non-existence, 17-19 June 2009

#### *Invited Talks*

“Empty Names,” University of Alberta, January 1992.

“Causally Relevant Properties,” Philosophy of Mind Discussion Group, Cornell University, March 1992.

“Structured Characters and Complex Demonstratives,” Wayne State University, February 1994.

“Demonstratives and Their Linguistic Meanings,” SUNY Buffalo, February 1996.

“Understanding Belief Reports,” SUNY Albany, April 1999.

“Demonstratives, Utterances, Linguistic Meaning, and Logic,” Workshop on Semantics and Pragmatics, Cornell University, March 1999.

“Russellianism and Explanation,” Syracuse University, October 1999.

- “Cognitive Significance, Attitude Ascriptions, and Ways of Believing,” Pacific APA, March 2001.
- “Simple Sentences, Substitutions, and Mistaken Evaluations,” Rutgers Semantics Workshop, September 2001 (with Jennifer Saul).
- “Failure to Substitute Co-referring Names in Simple Sentences,” Vancouver Cognitive Science Conference, February 2003.
- “Empty Names, Fictional Names, Mythical Names,” University of Manitoba, December 2002; Central APA, April 2003; University of California, Riverside, February 2004; University of Massachusetts, Amherst, April 2004; University of California, Davis, February 2005.
- “Now You Know Who Hong Oak Yun Is,” University of Sheffield, March 2004, and Workshop on *De Re* Belief at Queen’s University, Kingston, ON, September 2004.
- “Wondering About Witches,” SUNY University at Buffalo, October 2006.
- “Implicating Questions,” University of Sheffield, December 2006, and University at Buffalo, November 2007.
- “Complex Demonstratives,” Semantics Workshop, Cornell University, April 2007.
- “An Invariantist Theory of ‘Might’ Might Be Right,” Workshop on Contextualism, Queen’s University, Kingston, ON, 11-13 September 2009.

*Invited Comments*

- Comment on William Lycan’s “A New Argument for the Representational Theory of Thinking,” University of Rochester, May 1991.
- Comment on Colin Allen’s “The Causal Relevance of Content,” Pacific APA, March 1994.
- Comment on Thomas Peard’s “Semantics of Demonstratives,” Pacific APA, March 1997.
- Comment on Christopher Gauker’s “Truth in Context,” Eastern APA, December 1999.
- Comment on Delia Graff’s “Vagueness, Adjectives, and Interests,” Rutgers Semantics Workshop, May 2000.
- Comment on Gabriel Segal’s “Two Theories of Names,” Rutgers Semantics Workshop, September 2000.
- Comment on David Chalmers’s “Probability and Propositions,” Online Philosophy Conference, May 2006, [http://experimentalphilosophy.typepad.com/online\\_philosophy\\_confere/](http://experimentalphilosophy.typepad.com/online_philosophy_confere/)
- Comment on Paul Teller, Peter Ludlow, and Michael Glanzberg, “Vagueness, Truth, and the Goals of Inquiry,” Pacific APA, April 2009.

**Courses Taught**

- Lower Division: Introduction to Philosophy, Critical Reasoning, Symbolic Logic
- Upper Division: Philosophy of Mind, Metaphysics, Philosophy of Language, Logical Methods in Philosophy, Philosophy of Science, History of Modern Philosophy (Descartes to Kant)
- Graduate Level: Theory of Direct Reference, Attitude Ascriptions, Mental Content and Causation, Reference and Nonexistence, Indexicals and

Demonstratives, Vagueness, Consciousness, Knowing That and Knowing Who and Context, Fiction and General Terms, Qualia and Representation, Knowing How and Knowing That

**Journal Editorial Board**

*Philosophy Compass*

**Journal Refereeing**

For *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*, *Canadian Journal of Philosophy*, *Dialogue*, *Erkenntnis*, *European Journal of Philosophy*, *Linguistics and Philosophy*, *Mind*, *Mind and Language*, *Noûs*, *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly*, *Philosophers' Imprint*, *Philosophia*, *Philosophical Papers*, *Philosophical Quarterly*, *Philosophical Review*, *Philosophical Studies*, *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*, *Philosophy Compass*, and *Synthese*

**Book Reviewing**

For MIT Press and Oxford University Press

**Fellowships and Awards**

Sloan Foundation Fellowship in Cognitive Science, 1988 (see under employment)

NEH Summer Stipend, Summer 1989

Bridging Fellowship, University of Rochester, Fall 1992 (one semester paid leave to study linguistics at UR)

**Professional Service**

Secretary-Treasurer of the Creighton Club (New York Philosophical Association), 2002-2004

Vice-President of the Creighton Club, 2004-5

President of the Creighton Club, 2005-7

**University Service**

*At University of Rochester*

Cognitive Science Steering Committee, 1994-1999

Cognitive Science Curriculum Committee, 1989-1992

Member of a committee responsible for administering a NIH Training Grant to the Center for the Sciences of Language, 1992-2000

Faculty Council Representative, 1994-5, Spring 2005, Spring 2006

Freshman Advisor, 1998-2008

**Department Service**

*At University of Rochester*

Colloquium Director, 1991-2, 1993-00, 1999-2000 (co-director), 2002-3, 2005-6

Organizer of Philosophy Conferences at UR in 1991 (on Belief and Belief Attribution),

1992 (on Consequentialism), and 1998 (Lewis White Beck Memorial Conference)  
Hiring Committee, 1991-2, 1997-8, 1998-9, 2004-5, Summer 2006, 2006-7, 2007-8  
Graduate Admissions Committee, 1993-4 (chair), 1998-9, 2004-5 (chair), 2006-7  
Undergraduate Advisor for the Philosophy Department, 1999-2004  
Director of Graduate Student Teaching, Spring 2006  
Graduate Placement Director, 2006-7, 2007-8  
Mellon Humanities Corridor Representative, 2007-8  
Organizer of Mellon Workshop in Epistemology, 2008

*At University at Buffalo*

Cognitive Science Committee, 2008-9  
Colloquium Committee, 2008-9  
Colloquium Director, 2009-10  
Graduate Student Progress and Evaluation Committee, 2008-9  
Executive Committee, 2008-9