

Lucas McGranahan, PhD

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Education

PhD in Philosophy. University of California, Santa Cruz, June 2012

BA in Philosophy and English, with distinction. University of Wisconsin, Madison, May 2003

Research Interests

Employee ownership, economic democracy, American pragmatism

Academic Appointments

Senior Research Specialist. Great Cities Institute, University of Illinois at Chicago, September 2017 to present

Adjunct Lecturer. University of California, Santa Cruz, June to December, 2012

Instructor, Teaching Assistant, PhD Candidate. University of California, Santa Cruz, January 2006 to May 2012

Book

2017. *Darwinism and Pragmatism: William James on Evolution and Self-Transformation.* London: Routledge.

- Single-author work with a leading global press
- First book on William James and evolution in English

Publications (selected)

Forthcoming. "Grasping the Elephant: Conference Explores Knowledge across Disciplines." *The University of Chicago Magazine*, Winter 2018.

2017. "William James." *Encyclopedia of Animal Cognition and Behavior*, eds. Jennifer Vonk and Todd Shakelford. Springer.

2017. "John A. Simpson Jr.: The Responsible Scientist." *The University of Chicago Magazine*, Fall 2017: 29–30.

2012. *William James's Evolutionary Pragmatism: A Study in Physiology, Psychology, and Philosophy at the Close of the Nineteenth Century.* PhD thesis, University of California, Santa Cruz.

2011. "William James's Social Evolutionism in Focus." *The Pluralist*, 6.3: 80–92.

Employee Ownership Advocacy

Chicago branch co-leader, blog contributor. Democracy at Work, New York, NY, October 2016 to present

- Coordinating efforts to advance legislation and outreach for employee ownership in Chicago; authoring and editing blog content for the national Democracy at Work organization.

Researcher, development coordinator. Manufacturing Renaissance, Chicago, May 2017 to present

- Researching a forthcoming thought-leadership book for an organization promoting employee ownership conversions in Chicago; maintaining the organization's donor database.

Event volunteer. Democracy at Work Institute, Oakland, CA, September to November 2016

- Tabulated and analyzed data relating to a major biennial conference on worker cooperatives.

Honors, Fellowships, and Grants

- Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy Travel Grant, Spring 2012
- Douglas Greenlee Prize (best early-career conference paper), Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy, Spokane, WA, March 2011
- UCSC Graduate Division Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award, Spring 2011
- Summer Institute in American Philosophy Travel Grant, Summer 2011
- Philosophy Department Summer Research Fellowship, Summer 2011
- Philosophy Department Travel Grant, Spring 2011
- UCSC Graduate Student Association Travel Grant, Spring 2011
- Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy Travel Grant, Spring 2010
- Exemplary Teacher Honorary Commencement Invitation, June 2009
- UCSC Graduate Student Association Travel Grant, Spring 2009
- UC Regent's Fellowship for Dissertation Research, Fall 2009
- UCSC Graduate Division Teaching Assistant Sabbatical, Spring 2008
- Philosophy Department Summer Research Fellowship, Summer 2007
- Philosophy Department Summer Research Fellowship, Summer 2006
- Philosophy Department Travel Grant, Summer 2006
- Institute for Humanities Research Travel Grant, Summer 2006
- UC Regents Fellowship for Dissertation Research, Fall 2005
- Non-Resident Tuition Remission, academic year 2005–2006

Presentations

- "Darwinism and Pragmatism," Department of Philosophy, UC Santa Cruz, November 20, 2014
- "Masters and Saints: William James as Early American Reader of Nietzsche," Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy, New York City, March 2012
- "Adapting Darwin: William James and Evolutionary Theory," Summer Institute in American Philosophy, University of Oregon, Eugene, OR, July 2011
- "William James's Social Evolutionism in Focus," Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy, Spokane, WA, March 2011
- "Evolutionary History: William James's 'Social Darwinism,'" UC Santa Cruz, June 2010
- "The Significance of William James's Uncharitable Reading of Nietzsche," Berkeley/Stanford/Davis Graduate Philosophy Conference, UC Berkeley, April 2010
- "Evolution and Absolutes: William James and the Varieties of Selectionism," Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy, Charlotte, NC, March 2010
- "Nietzsche: Physiology as Embodied Interdisciplinarity," Humanities Education Resources Association, Chicago, IL, April 2009 (session chair)

Teaching Experience

University: primary instructor. 9 courses taught across 4 departments as primary instructor at University of California, Santa Cruz, summer 2009 to fall 2012

- Department of Philosophy (5 courses)
- Writing Department (2 courses)
- Department of Literature (1 course)
- Kresge College (1 course)

University: teaching assistant. 18 courses assisted across 4 departments at University of California, Santa Cruz, winter 2006 to fall 2011

- Department of Philosophy (15 courses)
- Department of Psychology (1 course)
- History of Art and Visual Culture Department (1 course)
- Department of History (1 course)

Middle and high school: refugee literacy coach. Refugee Transitions, San Francisco, CA, April 2011 to June 2012

- Tutored refugee students from a variety of national and linguistic backgrounds in one-on-one and group settings with a Bay Area community organization.

Research Languages

English, German

Leadership Experience

Cofounder, Communications Director. Praxis Collaborative Chicago, October 2017 to present

- Cofounded a housing cooperative to provide affordable housing to activists in Chicago.
- Elected as director of the Communications Committee, in charge of fundraising, event planning, and training.
- Coordinated with board and legal counsel to incorporate the organization, draft bylaws, and seek 501(c)(3) status.

Creative Director. Open English, Coconut Grove, FL, September 2012 to April 2013

- Interviewed, hired, and supervised a team of creative writers to develop hundreds of online ESL lessons for a growing startup company.
- Facilitated weekly meetings, reviewed lessons to enforce consistent tone and messaging, generated training materials, and coordinated with senior leadership to monitor quality and timeliness of content.

Other Industry and Nonprofit Experience

Development Writer. University of Chicago, February 2017 to present

- Authoring principal gift proposals (\$5 million+), grant proposals, leadership correspondence, direct mail, social media, and web copy to support a comprehensive fundraising campaign.

Development Associate and Grants Manager. Crowden Music Center, Berkeley, CA, January 2015 to November 2016

- Authored grants, administered database, reconciled accounts with CFO, and coordinated with board, staff, and volunteers to execute the most successful gala in the organization's history.

Development and Communications Associate. Legal Assistance for Seniors, Oakland, CA, August 2013 to January 2015

- Authored grants, administered database, reconciled accounts with CFO, managed spring and fall annual giving campaigns, and co-organized a statewide conference on elder abuse.

Grants Manager. Baywood Learning Center, Oakland, CA, February to July 2013

- Gained comprehensive fundraising training, supervised volunteer grant writers, secured donation of Salesforce database licenses, and maintained database.

Relay Operator for the Deaf, Training Assistant. MCI, Madison, WI, May 2004 to August 2005

- Provided equal access to telecommunications by transcribing calls at 60+ wpm; secured a position as a training assistant due to performance.

Technical Writer. Epic Systems Corporation, Verona, WI, August 2003 to February 2004

- Authored and edited technical documentation in a team environment under strict deadlines.

Copy Cataloger. University of Wisconsin, Madison, September 2001 to May 2003

- Created and tracked bibliographic records for materials in a major university library system.

References

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