

# Shelly Kagan

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## EDUCATION:

Wesleyan University, 1972-1976; B.A. Philosophy, and Religion, summa cum laude, with honors, 1976  
Princeton University, 1977-1981; M.A., 1979; Ph.D., 1982  
Dissertation: The Limits of Morality. Advisor: Thomas Nagel

## ACADEMIC POSITIONS:

University of Pittsburgh, Assistant Professor of Philosophy, 1981-1986  
University of Illinois at Chicago, Assistant Professor of Philosophy, 1986-1989; Associate Professor, 1989-1994; Professor, 1994-1995  
Yale University, Professor of Philosophy; Henry R. Luce Professor of Social Thought and Ethics, 1995-2004; Clark Professor of Philosophy, 2004-present

## AWARDS:

Phi Beta Kappa, Wesleyan University, 1975  
Whiting Fellowship in the Humanities, Princeton, 1980-81  
Summer Research Grant, University of Pittsburgh, 1984  
Senior Fellow at the Institute for the Humanities, University of Illinois at Chicago, 1987-88  
University Scholar, University of Illinois at Chicago, 1990-93  
Inaugural presentation of the George Hourani Lectures in Moral Philosophy, SUNY Buffalo, 1996  
Normative Ethics selected by Choice as an "Outstanding Academic Book" for 1998  
The Geometry of Desert, winner of the 2012 PROSE award in Philosophy

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS: Moral, Social, and Political Philosophy

SERVICE:

Professional: Editorial Board of Ethics, 1991-2010; occasional referee for American Philosophical Quarterly, Australasian Journal of Philosophy, Canadian Journal of Philosophy, Economics and Philosophy, The Journal of Ethics, Journal of Philosophical Research, Nous, Philosophical Studies, and Philosophy and Phenomenological Research

Advisory Board, The Philosophical Gourmet Report, 2001-present

Manuscript referee, Columbia University Press, 1985; Harvard University Press, 1987, 1989; Oxford University Press, 1990, 1993, 1998, 1999, 2009, 2014

Promotion and Tenure Review, Arizona State University, Barnard, Bates, Calgary, Colorado, Cornell, Dartmouth, Delaware, Duke, Harvard, Loyola University, MIT, Notre Dame, Northwestern, Ohio State University, Pomona College, Rutgers, Southern Methodist University, Tufts, UCLA, University of California at San Diego, University of Connecticut, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, University of Missouri at Saint Louis, University of Nebraska at Lincoln, University of Toronto, University of Vermont

Advisory Committee to the Program Committee of the Eastern Division of the American Philosophical Association, 1992-95

Grant Application referee, Woodrow Wilson Center, 1993-1999

Departmental: Graduate Student Admissions Officer, 1983-84, Spring 2012, Spring 2012; Mellon Postdoctoral Fellowship Coordinator, 1983, 1984; Undergraduate Advisor, 1984, 1985, 1991-92; Library Liaison, 1988-92; Honors College Fellow, 1988-90; Executive Committee, 1988-90, 1992-93; Promotion and Tenure Committee, 1991-92; Secretary, 1993-95; Acting Chair, 1997-98, Fall 1999, Fall 2008, Fall 2011, Spring 2015

University: Graduate Student Awards Committee, 1989-1995; University Scholars Review Panel, 1991; Selection Committee for the Wrexham Prize in the Humanities, 1996; Selection Committee for the Sarai Ribicoff Award, 1997; Selection Committee for the Morse Fellowship, 2003; Selection Committee for the Whiting Fellowship, 2005; Head of the Senior Search Committee in Ethics and International Affairs, for the Yale Center in International and Area Studies, 2005-07; Standing Advisory and Appointments Committee for the School of Divinity, 2011-12; EPE Advisory Committee, 1995-present.

Dissertation Supervision: Edward Sherline, Ph.D. 1989  
Steven Hetcher, Ph.D. 1991  
Doran Smolkin, Ph.D. 1992  
Samantha Brennan, Ph.D. 1993  
Kelly Sorensen, Ph.D. 2003  
Gwen Bradford, Ph.D. 2010  
Markus Labude, 2008-10  
Arik Ben-Avi, 2010-13  
Gaurav Vazirani, 2010-13

## PUBLICATIONS:

### Books:

The Limits of Morality, Oxford University Press, 1989

Normative Ethics, Westview Press, 1998

Selected by Choice as an "Outstanding Academic Book" for 1998.

Death, Yale University Press, 2012

Translated into Korean, 2012; Chinese, 2014; Taiwan, 2015.

The Geometry of Desert, Oxford University Press, 2012

Winner of the 2012 PROSE award in Philosophy.

### Articles:

"Does Consequentialism Demand Too Much?" Philosophy & Public Affairs 13, #3  
(Summer, 1984): 239-254.

Reprinted in Consequentialism, edited by Philip Pettit (Dartmouth, 1993): 391-406.

"Causation, Liability, and Internalism," Philosophy & Public Affairs 15, #1 (Winter, 1986):  
41-59.

"The Present-Aim Theory of Rationality," Ethics 96, #4 (July, 1986): 746-759.

"Donagan On the Sins of Consequentialism," Canadian Journal of Philosophy 17, #3  
(September, 1987): 643-653.

"The Additive Fallacy," Ethics 99, #1 (October, 1988): 5-31.

Reprinted in Ethics: Problems and Principles, edited by John Martin Fischer and  
Mark Ravizza (Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1992): 252-271; and in What's Wrong?  
Applied Ethicists and Their Critics, edited by David Boonin and Graham Oddie (Oxford,  
2004).

"Causation and Responsibility," American Philosophical Quarterly 25, #4 (October, 1988):  
293-302.

"Précis of The Limits of Morality" and "Replies to My Critics," in a symposium on The  
Limits of Morality (with contributions by Frances Kamm, Dan Brock, and Michael Slote),  
Philosophy and Phenomenological Research 51, #4 (December, 1991): 897-901, and  
919-928.

- "The Limits of Well-Being," Social Philosophy & Policy 9, #2 (1992): 169-189.  
This volume of the journal has also been published as The Good Life and the Human Good, edited by Ellen Frankel Paul, Fred D. Miller, and Jeffrey Paul (Cambridge, 1992).
- "The Structure of Normative Ethics," Philosophical Perspectives 6 (1992): 223-242.  
Reprinted in The Philosopher's Annual 15 (1994): 109-128.
- "The Unanimity Standard," Journal of Social Philosophy, 24, #2 (Fall 1993): 129-154.
- "Defending Options," in a symposium on The Limits of Morality (with contributions by Jeremy Waldron and Michael Bratman), Ethics 104, #2 (January, 1994): 333-351.
- "The Argument from Liberty," in In Harm's Way: Essays in Honor of Joel Feinberg, edited by Jules Coleman and Allen Buchanan (Cambridge, 1994): 16-41.
- "Me and My Life," Proceedings of the Aristotelian Society, 94 (1994): 309-324.
- "Baier on Killing and Letting Die," in Reason, Ethics, and Society: Themes from Kurt Baier, with His Responses, edited by J.B. Schneewind (Open Court, 1996): 168-183.
- "Infinite Value and Finitely Additive Value Theory" (with Peter Vallentyne), The Journal of Philosophy 94, #1 (January, 1997): 5-26.
- "Equality and Desert," in What Do We Deserve?, edited by Owen McLeod and Louis Pojman (Oxford: 1998): 298-314.  
Reprinted in Theories of Justice, edited by Tom Campbell and Alejandra Mancilla (Ashgate, 2012).
- "Rethinking Intrinsic Value," The Journal of Ethics 2, #4 (1998): 277-297.  
Reprinted in Recent Work on Intrinsic Value, edited by Toni Ronnow-Rasmussen and Michael Zimmerman (Springer, 2005): 97-114.
- "Evaluative Focal Points," in Morality, Rules, and Consequences, edited by Brad Hooker, Elinor Mason, and Dale Miller (Edinburgh, and Rowman & Littlefield, 2000): 134-155.
- "Thinking About Cases," Social Philosophy & Policy 18, #2 (Summer 2001): 44-63.  
This volume of the journal has also been published as Moral Knowledge, edited by Ellen Frankel Paul, Fred D. Miller, and Jeffrey Paul (Cambridge, 2001).  
Reprinted in Ethical Theory, edited by Russ Shafer-Landau (Blackwell, 2007).
- "Gert on Aid to Others," in Rationality, Rules, and Ideals: Critical Essays on Bernard Gert's Moral Theory, edited by Walter Sinnott-Armstrong and Robert Audi (Rowman & Littlefield, 2002): 127-143.
- "Kantianism for Consequentialists," in Groundwork for the Metaphysics of Morals, Immanuel Kant, edited by Allen Wood (Yale, 2002): 111-156.

- “Comparative Desert,” in Desert and Justice, edited by Serena Olsaretti (Oxford, 2003): 93-122.
- "The Geometry of Desert," The Lindley Lecture, University of Kansas, 2005.
- "Indeterminate Desert," in The Good, The Right, Life and Death, edited by Kris McDaniel and others (Ashgate, 2006): 45-69.
- "The Grasshopper, Aristotle, Bob Adams, and Me," in Metaphysics and the Good: Themes from the Philosophy of Robert Merrihew Adams, edited by Samuel Newlands and Larry Jorgensen (Oxford, 2009): 388-404.
- "Well-Being as Enjoying the Good," Philosophical Perspectives 23 (2009): 253-272.
- “Unclear Implications: Commentary on Norton and Ariely” (a very brief comment on Michael Norton and Dan Ariely, “Building a Better America—One Wealth Quintile at a Time”) Perspectives on Psychological Science 6, #1 (January, 2011): 17-18.
- “Do I Make a Difference?” Philosophy & Public Affairs 39, #2 (Spring, 2011): 105-141
- “Is Death Bad for You?” (a condensed excerpt from Chapter 10 of Death), The Chronicle Review, The Chronicle of Higher Education, May 13, 2012 (also available online at: <http://chronicle.com/article/Is-Death-Bad-for-You-/131818/> ).
- “Don’t Fear the Reaper” (a condensed excerpt from Chapter 14 of Death), New Scientist 216, #2887 (October 20, 2012): 42-43.
- “Meningslöst att frukta döden” (a condensed excerpt from Chapter 14 of Death, translated into Swedish), Axess, November 9, 2012 (also available online at: <http://www.axess.se/magasin/default.aspx?article=1555>).
- “Why Study Philosophy?” Frontiers of Philosophy in China 8 #2 (June 2013): 258-265.
- “Death Delayed Means a Life Transformed,” The Wall Street Journal, July 8, 2014, R20 (also available online at: <http://www.wsj.com/articles/shelly-kagan-on-the-future-of-death-when-we-can-live-decades-longer-1404764480> ).
- “An Introduction to Ill-Being,” Oxford Studies in Normative Ethics 4 (2014): 261-288.
- “The Costs of Transitivity: Thoughts on Larry Temkin’s Rethinking the Good,” Journal of Moral Philosophy 12, #4 (2015): 462-478.
- “Solving the Trolley Problem,” in F.M. Kamm, The Trolley Problem Mysteries, edited by Eric Rakowski (Oxford, 2016): 151-165.

“Singer on Killing Animals,” in The Ethics of Killing Animals, edited by Tatjana Visak and Robert Garner (Oxford, 2016): 136-153.

“What’s Wrong with Speciesism?” Journal of Applied Philosophy 33 (2016): 1-21 (with comments by David DeGrazia, Jeff McMahan, and Peter Singer).

"Exploring Desert," forthcoming as part of a symposium on The Geometry of Desert, in Criminal Law and Philosophy (with contributions by Victor Tadros and Kasper Lippert-Rasmussen).

Other:

The lectures from my course, "Death," are available online at:

<http://oyc.yale.edu/philosophy/death>.

Two dozen short, self-contained clips from these lectures are available online at:

<http://www.youtube.com/user/segmentationtestOYC>.

My debate with William Craig, "Is God Necessary for Morality?" (Veritas Forum, Columbia University, February 24, 2009) is available online at:

<http://www.veritas.org/Media.aspx#/v/191> or

<http://www.veritas.org/Campus/Recordings.aspx?cid=10#e103>

(the original link, <http://veritas.org/media/talks/693>, now appears to be dead)

An interview with me on certain religious topics can be found in Open Questions: Diverse Thinkers Discuss God, Religion, and Faith, edited by Luis Rodrigues (Praeger, 2010), pp. 157-176.

My talk on “Why is Death Bad for You?” (The Maquire Ethics Center, Southern Methodist University, April 1, 2013) is available online at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=waoEVI9FN5Q>

An interview with me discussing death, as well as books that have influenced me (recorded in English, May 9, 2013, at Naver, NHN, the Green Factory, in South Korea), is available

online at: [http://bookshelf.naver.com/story/view.nhn?intlet\\_no=91](http://bookshelf.naver.com/story/view.nhn?intlet_no=91)

An interview with me on “How to Die” (for “How to Do It,” with Josh Bloch and Sarah Treleaven, CBC radio, broadcast August 27, 2013), is available online at:

<http://www.cbc.ca/howtodoit/episodes/2013/08/27/how-to-die/> or

<http://www.cbc.ca/radio/media/audioplayer.html?categoryid=2389649702>

(I am introduced at the 19:00 mark.)

An interview on how “Living Longer Means Rethinking Social Structures” (from "The Takeaway," with John Hockenberry, Public Radio International, broadcast March 14, 2014) is available online at:

<http://www.thetakeaway.org/story/finding-value-living-longer/>

A (short) talk on “What’s Wrong with Speciesism?” (from the Yale conference on the “Ethics of Human Relations with Animals,” October 31, 2014) is available online at:

[https://ia802604.us.archive.org/20/items/ethics\\_animals\\_kagan\\_103114\\_201411/ethics\\_animals\\_kagan\\_103114.ogv](https://ia802604.us.archive.org/20/items/ethics_animals_kagan_103114_201411/ethics_animals_kagan_103114.ogv)

My (full) talk on "What Wrong with Speciesism?" (the Annual Lecture of the Society for Applied Philosophy, the University of Oxford, June 11, 2015) is available online in three parts.

(1) The lecture itself is available at:

<https://soundcloud.com/appliedphil/2015-shelly-kagan-lecture-whats-wrong-with-speciesism>

(2) Audience discussion is available at:

<https://soundcloud.com/appliedphil/2015-shelly-kagan-whats-wrong-with-speciesism-part-2-audience-discussion>

(3) A follow up interview (conducted by Jeff McMahan the next day) is available at:

<https://soundcloud.com/appliedphil/2015-shelly-kagan-whats-wrong-with-speciesism-part-3-interview>

An interview on "Speciesism" (for "Philosophy Bites," with Nigel Warburton and David Edmonds, June 12, 2015) is available online at:

<http://philosophybites.com/2015/08/shelly-kagan-on-speciesism.html>

A discussion, "To Speak or Not to Speak: What Philosophers Have to Say About the Day's Top Stories," with Michael Lynch, Lida Maxwell, and Colin McEnroe (for "The Colin McEnroe Show," NPR, November 11, 2015) is available online at:

<http://wnpr.org/post/speak-or-not-speak-what-philosophers-have-say-about-days-top-stories#stream/0>

## WORK IN PROGRESS:

### Thinking Through Sidgwick

“The Paradox of Methods”

“What is the Opposite of Well-Being?”

“Deontological Desert”

“Deprivation and Rational Regret”

How to Count Animals, More or Less

PRESENTATIONS:

"The Sins of Consequentialism," given at the Illinois Philosophical Association conference on "The Philosophy of Alan Donagan," November 4, 1983.

"Morally Relevant Factors: How Not to Argue About Them," given at Ohio State University, October 12, 1984; and the University of Chicago, November 2, 1984.

"Against Ordinary Morality," given at Dartmouth College, January 21, 1985; Brandeis University, January 24, 1985; Duke University, January 28, 1985; and the University of Wisconsin at Madison, February 1, 1985.

"The Additive Fallacy," given at the University of California at Los Angeles, February 4, 1985; the University of Maryland, February 6, 1985; the University of California at Berkeley, January 27, 1986; and the University of California at San Diego, February 7, 1986.

"The Present-Aim Theory of Rationality," an invited paper given at the American Philosophical Association (Pacific Division) symposium on Derek Parfit's Reasons and Persons, March 22, 1985.

"Why You Can't Derive an Ought From an Is," given at the University of California at Santa Barbara, January 31, 1986; the University of Illinois at Chicago, February 3, 1986; and Arizona State University, November 6, 1987.

Comments on Sara Ketchum's "Future People and Environmental Damage," given at the Eastern Division meetings of the American Philosophical Association, December 29, 1986.

"The Argument from Liberty," given at the Society for Philosophy and Public Affairs (New York), February 19, 1987; and Northern Illinois University, October 11, 1991.

"The Demands of Consequentialism," given at Brooklyn College, February 23, 1987.

Participant in the Liberty Fund Symposium on "The Ethics and Economics of Charity" (Coronado, California), March 5-7, 1987.

"Causation and Responsibility," an invited paper given at the Pacific Division meetings of the American Philosophical Association, March 27, 1987; and the Committee on Public Policy Studies (University of Chicago), April 28, 1987.

"What Do I Have When I Have a Reason to Do Something?" given at the Institute for the Humanities, the University of Illinois at Chicago, April 26, 1988.



"The Metaphysics of Moral Reasons," an invited paper given at the "Conference on Contemporary Moral Theory," the University of St. Andrews, Scotland, September 16, 1988.

"On Instrumental Reasons," given at the University of California at Davis, April 6, 1989; and as an invited paper at the Central Division meetings of the American Philosophical Association, April 29, 1989.

Comments on Neera Badhwar's "The Rejection of Moral Rationalism," given at the Humane Studies Foundation, George Mason University, May 12, 1989.

Reply to Jeff McMahan, given at the Illinois Philosophical Association, "Colloquium on Shelly Kagan's The Limits of Morality," November 10, 1989.

"The Structure of Normative Ethics," given at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, November 17, 1989; Brown University, January 31, 1990; and New York University, February 9, 1990.

"The Limits of Well-Being," given at the University of Arizona, October 19, 1990; the University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee, March 6, 1991; and the Social Philosophy & Policy Center conference on "The Good Life and the Human Good," Boston, April 11-14, 1991.

Participant in the Liberty Fund Symposium on "Liberty, Responsibility, and the Redistributive State" (New Orleans), February 21-23, 1991.

Panelist in "Constructions of Reason: A Conference on the Work of Onora O'Neill," held at Notre Dame University, September 27-28, 1991.

Author Meets Critic session on The Limits of Morality, (responding to papers by Michael Bratman and Jeremy Waldron), held at the Pacific meetings of the American Philosophical Association, March 26, 1992.

"Evaluative Focal Points," an invited paper given at the "Conference on Consequentialism", held at the University of Rochester, May 3, 1992.

"The Evils of Death," given at St. Cloud State University, May 14, 1992; Claremont Graduate School, March 23, 1995; and Dalhousie University, May 8, 1997.

Discussion session on The Limits of Morality, held at St. Cloud State University, as part of the Visiting Philosopher Program of the Council for Philosophical Studies, May 15, 1992.

"Me and My Life," given at Purdue University, October 22, 1992; the Legal Theory Workshop at Yale Law School, November 19, 1992; and presented for me by Brad Hooker to the Aristotelian Society, June 6, 1994.

"Toward the Good," a series of three lectures ("Me and My Life," "Varieties of Goodness," and "The Structure of Desert"), given at Notre Dame University, November 2-6, 1992.

"The Demands of Morality (or: Why Most of Us Lead Immoral Lives)," given at Ohio Northern University, January 28, 1993.

"The Structure of Desert," given at the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana, February 19, 1993; the University of Utah, March 12, 1993; the University of Vermont, October 1, 1993; and at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, December 3, 1993.

"Baier on Killing and Letting Die," given at "The Rational and The Moral," a colloquium in honor of Kurt Baier, at the University of Pittsburgh, April 11, 1993.

"Moral Problems for Nurse-Midwives as Abortion Providers," given as part of a workshop on "Nurse-Midwives & Abortion -- What Will the Future Be?" at the 38th Annual Meeting of the American College of Nurse-Midwives, Orlando, Florida, May 28, 1993.

Participant in the Liberty Fund Conference on "Moral Foundations of Property Rights" (Durham), June 3-5, 1993.

"The Absolute Demands of Morality, or How Most of Us Lead Immoral Lives," given at Baldwin-Wallace College, November 5, 1993.

"The Geometry of Desert," given at the University of California at San Diego, January 14, 1994; Southern Methodist University, February 10, 1994; Rice University, February 11, 1994; Yale University, March 2, 1994; New York University, October 28, 1994; the University of Colorado, February 17, 1995; Claremont Graduate School, March 24, 1995; Ohio State University, October 20, 1995; Amherst College, December 1, 1995; Princeton University, November 7, 1997; Rutgers University, October 22, 1998; Calgary University, February 26, 1999; and as the Lindley Lecture, University of Kansas, March 10, 2005.

"Doing Good," given at a conference on "Moral Values and the Social Fabric" at Yale University, April 9, 1994.

Discussion session on The Limits of Morality, held at Ohio State University, as part of the first year seminar on ethical theory, October 19, 1995.

Comments on Seana Shiffrin's "Paternalism and Procreation," at the Young Scholar conference, Cornell University, March 16, 1996.

"Perfection: Moral and Immoral," given at the University of Connecticut, March 29, 1996.

Comments on Ken Binmore's "A Utilitarian Theory of Political Legitimacy," given at a conference on "Economics, Values and Organization," held at Yale University, April 19, 1996.

"Equality and Desert," given at the N.Y.U. Colloquium in Law, Philosophy, and Political Theory, October 3, 1996; the Political Theory Workshop, Yale University, February 4, 1997; Dalhousie University, May 9, 1997; and the meeting of the North American Society for Social Philosophy at the Eastern Division meeting of the American Philosophical Association, December 28, 1988.

"The Geometry of Desert," a series of four lectures ("Moral Landscapes," "Comparative Desert," "Perfection: Moral and Immoral," and "Kantian Consequentialism") given as the inaugural presentation of the George Hourani Lectures in Moral Philosophy at the State University of New York at Buffalo, October 16 and 18, and November 20 and 22, 1996.

"How Important is Well-Being?" (comments on Thomas Scanlon's Tanner Lecture, "The Status of Well-Being"), given at the University of Michigan, October 26, 1996.

"Rethinking Intrinsic Value," an invited paper given at the conference on "Intrinsic Value," at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, April 3, 1998.

Comments on Tamar Schapiro's "Paradox, Pointlessness, and the Kantian Theory of Action," given at the Eastern Division meetings of the American Philosophical Association, December 30, 1998.

"Gert on Aid to Others," given at the conference on "Gert's Moral Theory," Dartmouth College, May 15, 1999.

"Does Moralized Consequentialism have a Regress Problem?" an invited paper given at the meeting of the International Society for Utilitarian Studies, March 26, 2000.

"Thinking about Cases," given at the Social Philosophy & Policy conference on "Moral Epistemology," June 24, 2000.

"Indeterminate Desert," given at MIT, December 8, 2000.

"Avoiding Retributivism," an invited paper given at the Value Inquiry Conference, Tulsa, Oklahoma, April 26, 2001.

"Comparative Desert," given at the conference on "Desert and Justice," University of Cambridge, July 11, 2001; the 35th Chapel Hill Colloquium in Philosophy, University of North Carolina, October 27, 2001; and Johns Hopkins University, February 7, 2003.

"Ethics and Human Nature" (with Tom Hurka), on Odyssey (a radio talk show on NPR), WBEZ, Chicago, October 2, 2002.

"The Moral Failure of American Foreign Aid," given at the Yale Club of New Haven, December 4, 2002.

- “Parsing Parfit’s Principles,” given at the Workshop on Derek Parfit’s Tanner Lectures, Rutgers, April 11, 2003.
- “Do I Make a Difference?” given at Bowdoin College, April 25, 2003; a conference in honor of Judith Thomson, MIT, January 16, 2004; Rice, March 11, 2004; University of Massachusetts at Amherst, October 15, 2004; NYU, November 12, 2004; as an invited paper at the meeting of the International Society for Utilitarian Studies, Dartmouth, August 11, 2005; as the Elton Lecture at George Washington University, March 8, 2006; and as the Judge William H. Orrick, Jr. Lecturer at the Workshop in Law, Philosophy, and Political Theory, UC Berkeley, March 13, 2008.
- "The Grasshopper, Aristotle, Bob Adams, and Me" given at a conference in honor of Robert Adams, Yale, April 9, 2005.
- "Well-Being as Enjoying the Good," given at the 3rd Value Workshop, Columbia, December 10, 2005; Bates College, November 13, 2006; as the 2007 Dorothy and Richard Sikora Lecture, at the University of British Columbia, March 23, 2007; at the Kline Colloquium on Moral Philosophy, at the University of Missouri, April 13, 2007; and as the 2007 Morris Colloquium Lecture, the University of Colorado, May 2, 2007.
- "Well-Being as Loving the Good," keynote speaker at the Yale and UConn 2006 Philosophy Graduate Conference, Yale, October 20, 2006.
- "Perfectly Plausible Pandemonium: A Philosopher Peaks at Purim," given at a conference in honor of Rabbi James Ponet, Yale, March 2, 2007.
- "The Ethics of Cloning," the Morris Colloquium Lecture, University of Colorado, May 1, 2007; and at Syracuse University, October 27, 2010; and as the inaugural lecturer in the Tom Scholl lecture series, Purdue University, October 20, 2011.
- "Caregivers' Bond Creates Moral Dilemma," on Day to Day (on NPR), June 4, 2007.
- "Moral Intuitions," given at the 5th Value Workshop, Columbia University, December 7, 2007.
- "Kamm's Intuitions," given at a conference on Frances Kamm's Intricate Ethics, Rutgers (Camden), hosted by the Rutgers Institute for Law and Philosophy, February 23, 2008.
- "Is God Necessary for Morality?" a debate with William Craig, Veritas Forum, Columbia University, February 24, 2009.
- “Aggregation,” a comment on papers by Weyma Lubbe and Iwao Hirose, given at “Ethical Issues in the Prioritization of Health Resources,” the 4th annual conference of the Harvard University Program in Ethics and Health, Boston, April 24, 2009.

- "On Punishment" (with Anne-Marie Cusac), on *Where We Live* (a radio talk show on NPR), WNPR, Connecticut Public Radio, July 14, 2009.
- "The Paradox of Methods," keynote lecture given at the 2nd RoME (Rocky Mountain Ethics) Congress, University of Colorado, August 9, 2009; at Wesleyan University, April 22, 2010; at Syracuse University, October 26, 2010; as the inaugural presentation at the New England Consequentialism Workshop, Harvard University, November 17, 2010; at New York University, April 29, 2011; at Fordham University, February 7, 2012; and at a conference on "Contemporary Moral and Political Philosophy," sponsored by Politics, Philosophy & Economics, New Orleans, February 20, 2016.
- "Deontological Desert," given at the workshop "On Deservingness" at the University of Calgary, October 23, 2010; at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, September 9, 2011; and Purdue University, October 21, 2011; and at a conference in honor of Jerry Dworkin, UC-Davis, November, 12, 2011.
- "Questions about Directedness," given at the workshop on "Right and Directed Duties" at Princeton University, February 4, 2011.
- "The Existence Requirement and the Badness of Death," given at the Master Teachers in Action symposium, Princeton University, February 24, 2012.
- "Ill-Being," given at Princeton University, March 2, 2012; and at the Workshop on the Philosophy of Well-being at Southern Methodist University, March 2, 2013.
- "An Introduction to Ill-Being," given at the University of Pittsburgh, October 12, 2012; and as the Joel Feinberg Lecture at the Arizona Workshop in Normative Ethics at the University of Arizona, January 5, 2013.
- "Games, Utopia, and the Ideal Human Life," given at the inaugural Yale Immunobiology Student Symposium, Yale University, September 13, 2012; and at Peking University, October 25, 2012.
- "Why Study Philosophy?" given at the conference on "Philosophical Education and Contemporary Society," on the 100th anniversary of the founding of the department of philosophy, Peking University, October 27, 2012.
- "On Death and Dying," (with Kristen Leslie and Danielle Tumminio) on *Where We Live* (a radio talk show on NPR), WNPR, Connecticut Public Radio, December 10, 2012.
- "Why is Death Bad for You?" given as the Maguire Lecture on Moral Theory at Southern Methodist University, March 1, 2013; and as part of my "Living Philosopher" visit to Washington and Lee University (March 11-13, 2013) on March 11, 2013.
- "Solving the Trolley Problem," a comment on Frances Kamm's Tanner Lectures ("The Trolley Problem Mysteries"), UC Berkeley, March 20 and 21, 2013.

“Living in the Face of Death,” given at Seoul National University, May 7, 2013; recorded for SERI CEO (S. Korea), May 8, 2013; and given at Naver (S. Korea), May 9, 2013.

Appearance on SBS I Love In (a Korean television show, with Korean voice over), discussing death, recorded May 10 and broadcast June 29, 2013.

“How to Die” (an interview on “How to Do It,” a Canadian radio show), broadcast August 27, 2013.

“New Directions in Animal Ethics” (a panel discussion with Lori Gruen, Dale Jamieson, and Jeff McMahan), at New York University, October 18, 2013.

“What’s Wrong with Speciesism?” given at the University of Toronto, as the Roseman Lecture in Practical Ethics, November 14-15, 2013; at Yale University, as part of a conference on the “Ethics of Human Relations with Animals,” October 31, 2014; and as the Annual Lecture of the Society for Applied Philosophy, at Oxford University, June 11, 2015.

“What is Ill-Being When Well-Being is Enjoying the Good?” given as the Philip Quinn Memorial Lecture at Notre Dame, December 6, 2013; and at Cornell, as the Norman Kretzmann Undergraduate Lecture, April 25, 2014.

“The Costs of Transitivity,” given at an Author Meets Critics session on Larry Temkin’s Rethinking the Good, at the Eastern Division meetings of the American Philosophical Association, December 29, 2013.

“What is the Opposite of Well-Being?” given as the Class of 1970 Lecture, Rutgers University, March 27, 2014; as a keynote address at the Ninth Annual Mark L. Shapiro Graduate Philosophy Conference at Brown University, November 16, 2014; at Union College, February 19, 2015; as a keynote address to the British Society for Ethical Theory, July 14, 2015; and as a keynote address at the 8th annual RoME (Rocky Mountain Ethics) Congress, August 7, 2015.

“The Meaning of Life: an Exploration,” given at Agnes Scott College, October 22, 2014.

“Living Well in the Light of Death,” a discussion with N.T. Wright, Veritas Forum, Yale University, November 12, 2014.

“Deprivation and Rational Regret,” given at the Department of Bioethics, at the National Institutes of Health, May 12, 2015; to be given at Brandeis University, April 16, 2016; and as a keynote address at the second annual meeting of the International Association of the Philosophy of Death and Dying, Syracuse University, May 18-19, 2016.

“How to Count Animals, More or Less” (the Uehiro lectures), to be given at Oxford, November 2016.