Matt Farr

Curriculum Vitæ

Centre for Time
Department of Philosophy
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University of Sydney
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Employment

2013–present Postdoctoral Research Fellow (Philosophy and Physics of Time's Arrow), "New Agendas for the Study of Time: Connecting the Disciplines," Centre for Time, Department of Philosophy, University of Sydney, Australia.

Education

2013 PhD in Philosophy, University of Bristol, UK.
Thesis: *Towards a C Theory of Time: An Appraisal of the Physics and Metaphysics of Time Direction*
Supervisor: James Ladyman
Examiners: Huw Price (Cambridge), Alexander Bird (Bristol)
Submitted 28 September 2012. Examined 26 November 2012. Certified 8 January 2013.
Pass without corrections.

2007 M.A. Philosophy, University of Bristol, UK.
Dissertation: *Thermodynamics and Time Asymmetry*
Supervisor: James Ladyman
Awarded with distinction.

2006 B.A. Philosophy, University of Southampton, UK.
Dissertation: *Presentism and Gödel's R-Worlds*
Supervisor: Ray Monk
First class honours.

Areas of Specialisation

Philosophy of time, philosophy of physics, metaphysics, philosophy of science.

Areas of Competence

Epistemology, philosophy of language, philosophy of mind, ethics, metaethics, philosophy of social science.

Publications

Research Articles

1. Farr, M. & Reutlinger, A. (2013), "A Relic of a Bygone Age? Causation, Time Symmetry and the Directionality Argument," *Erkenntnis*, online first.
   Available online: `http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s10670-013-9510-z`.
   Preprint (free to access): `http://philsci-archive.pitt.edu/9561/`

2. Farr, M. (2012), "On *A*- and *B*-Theoretic Elements of Branching Spacetimes," *Synthese*, vol. 188, pp. 85–116.
   Available online: `http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s11229-011-0046-y`
   Preprint (free to access): `http://philsci-archive.pitt.edu/9081`

Further Publications

3. Farr, M. (forthcoming), "Review of Tim Maudlin's *Philosophy of Physics: Space and Time*, Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press 2012," *Philosophy in Review*.

4. Ivanova, M. & Farr, M. (2011), "Conventional Principles in Science" (conference report), *The Reasoner*, Volume 5, Number 10.
   Available online: `http://www.kent.ac.uk/secl/philosophy/jw/TheReasoner/vol5/TheReasoner-5(10).pdf`

Works in Progress

Under Review

"Supertemporal Ontology and the 'Triviality' Problem."

"Two-Timing Presentism."

Presented Papers

Invited Talks

1. *Forthcoming.* "TBC," *Philosophy Society Lecture*, Department of Philosophy, University of Bristol. January 2014.

2. "Initial Conditions and the Direction of Time," *History and Philosophy of Science Seminar*, Department of Philosophy, University of Bristol. July 9 2013.

3. "Does time have a direction?," *PERSP Space & Time Seminar*, University of Barcelona, Spain. May 21 2012.

Refereed Presentations

4. "'Initial' Conditions and the Direction of Time," *British Society for the Philosophy of Science Annual Conference*, University of Exeter, UK. July 4–5 2013.

5. "Causation and Initial Conditions in Time-Reversal Symmetric Physics," *Causation and Experimentation in the Sciences*, Paris Sorbonne University, France. July 1–3 2013.

6. "On the Status of Temporal Unidirectionality in Physics," *EPSA11: European Society for the Philosophy of Science Biennial Conference*, University of Athens, Greece. October 8 2011.

7. "Difference-Making and the Direction of Time" (with Alexander Reutlinger), *CaEitS2011: Causality and Explanation in the Sciences*, University of Ghent, Belgium. September 20 2011.

8. "On the Status of Temporal Unidirectionality in Physics," *14th Congress of Logic, Methodology and Philosophy of Science*, Nancy, France. July 25 2011.

9. "Temporal Ontology on the Two-Time Framework," *Joint Session of the Aristotelian Society and Mind Association*, University of Sussex, Brighton, UK. July 10 2011.

10. "Non-Reductive Naturalism about Time Direction?," *British Society for the Philosophy of Science Annual Conference*, University of Sussex, Brighton, UK. July 7 2011.

11. "The Role of the Metaphysics of Time Direction in the Past Hypothesis," *SILFS 2010: International Conference of the Italian Society for Logic and Philosophy of Sciences*, University of Bergamo, Italy. December 16 2010.

12. "Towards a *C* Theory of Time," *SIFA 2010: 9th National Conference of the Italian Society for Analytic Philosophy "Truth, Knowledge, and Science,"* University of Padua, Italy. September 24 2010.

    Review of talk: Calosi, C. (2011), "Truth, Knowledge, and Science," *Humana.Mente*, vol. 15. `http://www.humanamente.eu/PDF/Issue15_Report_Calosi.pdf`

13. "On Some Problems with *A*-theoretic and *B*-theoretic Models of Branching Spacetime," *Branching Time and Indeterminacy* (Postgraduate Conference), University of Bristol, UK. August 25 2010.

14. "Towards a *C* Theory of Time," *British Society for the Philosophy of Science Annual Conference*, University College Dublin, Republic of Ireland. July 9 2010.

Further Presentations

15. "'Initial' Conditions and the Direction of Time," *Sydney Foundations of Physics Seminar*, Centre for Time, University of Sydney. June 13 2013.

16. "Supertemporal Ontology and the Triviality Problem," Current Projects Seminar, Centre for Time, University of Sydney, Australia. March 25 2013.

17. "Explaining time and time explaining," Work-in-Progress Seminar, Department of Philosophy, University of Bristol, UK. November 21 2012.

18. "Does time have a direction?," Work-in-Progress Seminar, Department of Philosophy, University of Bristol, UK. May 9 2012.

19. "Does time have a direction?," Postgraduate Philosophy Seminar, Department of Philosophy, University of Bristol, UK. May 7 2012.

20. "How to be an *A* Series Realist," Postgraduate Philosophy Seminar, Department of Philosophy, University of Bristol, UK. July 4 2011.

21. "Non-Reductive Naturalism about Time Direction?," Work-in-Progress Seminar, Department of Philosophy, University of Bristol, UK. June 22 2011.

22. "Temporal Ontology on the Two-Time Framework," *The Present State of Presentism* (Workshop), Department of Philosophy, University of Bristol, UK. March 8 2011.

23. "The Role of the Metaphysics of Time Direction in the Past Hypothesis," Postgraduate Philosophy Seminar, Department of Philosophy, University of Bristol, UK. November 29 2010.
24. "Towards a *C* Theory of Time," departmental workshop, Department of Philosophy, University of Bristol, UK. September 17 2010.
25. "The 'Moving Now' and the *A* Series," Postgraduate Philosophy Seminar, Department of Philosophy, University of Bristol, UK. May 17 2010.
26. "Should there be a *C* theory of time?," Postgraduate Philosophy Seminar, Department of Philosophy, University of Bristol, UK. December 7 2009.

Teaching Experience

Lectures

2013 Guest lecturer (2 Lectures). *HPSC 4101: Philosophy of Science, The Philosophy of Symmetry*, History and Philosophy of Science Department, University of Sydney.

1. "Relativity Theory and the Metaphysics of Time."
2. "Time Reversal and the Direction of Time."

Seminars

2008–2012 Teaching Assistant, University of Bristol. (Conducting seminars, essay marking, and essay feedback.)

Introduction to Philosophy A: Metaphysics and Epistemology (first year undergraduate).

Realism and Normativity (Metaethics, theories of truth and semantic paradoxes) (second year undergraduate).

Philosophy of Mind (second year undergraduate).

Philosophy of Natural and Social Science (second year undergraduate).

Awards

2011 Postgraduate bursary, Royal Institute of Philosophy.

2008 Doctoral scholarship (full award), Arts and Humanities Research Council.

Travel Grants

2012 Travel grant to attend *Dispositions, Causes, Modality* workshop at Universität zu Köln, Cologne, Germany, March 7-9.

2011 Travel grant (to attend Congress of Logic, Methodology and Philosophy of Science in Nancy), National Science Foundation.

2011 Postgraduate travel grant (to attend Congress of Logic, Methodology and Philosophy of Science in Nancy), Bristol University Alumni Foundation.

2011 School of Arts postgraduate conference grant (to attend BSPS 2011), University of Bristol.

2011 Conference bursary (to attend BSPS 2011), British Society for the Philosophy of Science.

2010 School of Arts postgraduate conference grant (to attend BSPS 2010), University of Bristol.

2010 Conference bursary (to attend BSPS 2010), British Society for the Philosophy of Science.

Organisation

Completed

2011 Co-organiser (with Milena Ivanova) of conference: *Conventional Principles in Science*, Department of Philosophy, University of Bristol, August 18-19 2011. Invited speakers: Michael Friedman (Stanford), Hannes Leitgeb (Munich), Eleanor Knox (KCL), Adam Caulton (LSE). Funded by the Analysis Trust, the Bristol Institute for Research in the Humanities and Arts and the Bristol Alumni Fund. Proceedings to be published in special issue of *Studies in the History and Philosophy of Modern Physics*.

2011 Principal organiser of workshop: *The Present State of Presentism*, Department of Philosophy, University of Bristol, March 8 2011. Invited speakers: Christian Wüthrich (UC, San Diego), Oliver Pooley (Oxford). Funded by the School of Arts, University of Bristol.

In Planning

2013 Principal organiser (with Sam Baron) of conference: *Time Symmetry: A Unified Approach*, University of Sydney, August 29–30 2013. Speakers: Huw Price (Cambridge), Craig Callender (UC San Diego), Phil Dowe (Queensland), Alison Fernandes (Columbia), Antony Eagle (Adelaide), Toby Handfield (Monash), Peter Evans (La Trobe). Funded by the School of Philosophical and Historical Inquiry, University of Sydney.

Public Engagement

2013 Public lecture: "Time: Inside and Out." Dartford Grammar School, Dartford, UK. Invited lecture on philosophy and physics of time, primarily for Sixth-Form students. June 26 2013.

Service to the Profession

Referee for the British Journal for the Philosophy of Science.

Summer Schools Attended

2009 Geneva Summer School in the Philosophy of Physics: Foundations of Quantum Mechanics - 'Is Schrödinger's Cat Alive or Dead or Both?', Arolla, Switzerland, July 5-11 2009.

2008 Geneva Summer School in the Philosophy of Physics: 'What is the Nature of Space and Time?', Arolla, Switzerland, July 28 - August 2 2008.

Academic Referees

Available on request.

Last updated: July 30, 2013