ELEK LANE

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EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Philosophy, University of California, Berkeley   expected August 2024

B.A. in Philosophy, University of Chicago   June 2016
General and Special Honors

DISSERTATION

Metaphor in Mind and Language: Metaphor is a phenomenon that draws on narrowly linguistic competencies *and* broader cognitive and cultural abilities. I develop a new theory of how these interact with each other. Upon hearing a metaphor, the audience draws on an analogy between the metaphor's primary and secondary topics; they do this by *seeing* one thing *as* another or *imagining* something to be what it is not. This enables the audience to create a new interpretive scheme and thereby to properly understand the metaphor. In this new interpretive scheme, metaphorical and literal interpretations of the same word are strictly ambiguous. This proposal provides a novel explanation of selective deficits in autistic individuals, particularly those who are unable to comprehend metaphor but who otherwise have full linguistic competence. It also explains recalcitrant linguistic data about attitude reports, inference and entailment, punning and co-predication, and the broader dynamics of metaphor-involving conversations.

Committee: John MacFarlane and Seth Yalcin (co-chairs), Amy Rose Deal (Linguistics)

SPECIALIZATION

Philosophy of language, philosophy of mind, history of analytic philosophy

COMPETENCE

Feminist philosophy, aesthetics, early modern philosophy

PUBLICATIONS

Semantic Dispositionalism and the Rule-Following Paradox
  Metaphilosophy 53 (5): 685-695 (2022)

Resolution in §201 of the *Philosophical Investigations*
  Australasian Journal of Philosophy 98 (2): 393-402 (2020)

Excursus on Wittgenstein's Rule-Following Considerations
  Nordic Wittgenstein Review 6 (1): 53-83 (2017)

UNDER REVIEW

Deadnaming, Taboo, and Linguistic Authority

Distinguishing Two Kinds of Fictionalism: Metaphor, Autism, and the Imagination

Inescapable Impacts and Escapable Articulations: Hybrid Prohibitionism About Slurs

Metaphor and Ambiguity

Slurs Are Pronunciation Sensitive (with Edward Schwartz)

What Is Wrong With Deadnaming?

REFEREED TALKS

Slurs Are Pronunciation Sensitive
—Eastern APA, New York   upcoming January 2025
—Berkeley-Stanford-David Conference, U.C. Berkeley   April 2024

What Is Wrong With Deadnaming?
—Rocky Mountain Philosophy Conference, U.C. Boulder   April 2024

Metaphor as Lexical Ambiguity
—Hand, Brain, and Speech Conference, University of Naples   October 2023

Fictionalism About Metaphor and the Problem of Semantic Entailment
—Congreso Internacional de Doctorandos en Filosofía, P.U.C. de Chile   September 2023

Semantic Dispositionalism and the Rule-Following Paradox
—Berkeley-London Graduate Conference, University of London   May 2022

Non-Verbal Metaphor
—Mark L. Shapiro Graduate Conference, Brown University   March 2021

COMMENTARIES

On "Communication Via Conversational Implicature Is Testimony" (Mutsumoto Shohei)
—Berkeley-Stanford-David Conference, U.C. Berkeley   April 2024

On "Addressing Mary Midgley's Scholarly Neglect" (Ellie Robson)
—Berkeley-London Graduate Conference, U.C. Berkeley   May 2023

On "Insinuations and Speech Acts" (Antonio Monaco)
—Pacific APA, San Francisco   April 2023

FELLOWSHIPS and AWARDS

University of California, Berkeley
Graduate Division Summer Dissertation Writing Grant   2024
Universal Design for Learning Fellowship   2024
Graduate Division Travel Grant (x2)   2023-24
Dissertation Completion Fellowship (x2)   2023-24
Outstanding GSI Award   2022

Summer Stipend Award (x3)	2018-19, 2021
Regents Fellowship (x4)	2017-19

University of Chicago

Lee Family Essay Prize	2016
Dean's Fund Award	2016
Dunn Summer Research Fellowship	2015

SERVICE

Referee, *Australasian Journal of Philosophy, Ergo, Nordic Wittgenstein Review* (x3)	
Indexer, *The Entanglement* (Alva Noë)	
Referee, Berkeley-Stanford-David Conference (x3)	2018-19, 2024
Panelist, Berkeley Connect	2023
Head GSI	2022-23
Coffee Czar	2018-20

MEMBERSHIPS

Slurring Terms Across Languages Network
American Philosophical Association, Pacific Division

LANGUAGES

Native fluency: English
Reading competence: French, German

TEACHING

Main Instructor

Nature of Mind	Summer 2023

Assistant Instructor

Feminism and Philosophy (additionally appeared as guest lecturer)	Spring 2024
Philosophical Methods	Spring 2023
Nature of Mind	Summer 2022
Philosophy of Language	Spring 2022
Merleau-Ponty	Fall 2021
Modern Philosophy	Spring 2021
Introduction to Logic	Fall 2020
Introduction to Logic	Summer 2020
Philosophy of Mind	Spring 2020
Theory of Meaning	Summer 2019
Political Philosophy	Spring 2019

COURSEWORK

Qualifying Exams

Nietzsche's Perspectivism (Andreja Novakovic)	Fall 2019
Radical Contextualism (John MacFarlane)	Fall 2019

Wittgenstein on Concepts (Hans Sluga)   Fall 2019

Credit

Arguments from Illusion (Mike Martin)   Fall 2018
Aristotle (Tim Clarke)   Spring 2019
Kant (Daniel Warren)   Fall 2018
Abilities, Competence, Know-How (Barry Stroud)   Spring 2018
Vagueness, Truth, and Meaning (John MacFarlane)   Spring 2018
Why Is There Anything Except Physics? (Shamik Dasgupta, Geoff Lee)   Spring 2018
Art, Nature, Experience (Alva Noë)   Fall 2017
Intermediate Logic (Daniel Warren)   Fall 2017
Wittgenstein's Rule-Following Considerations (Hannah Ginsborg)   Fall 2017
First-year graduate seminar (Kristin Primus, Seth Yalcin)   Fall 2017

Audit

Cognition, Rationality, and Philosophical Naturalism (Geoff Lee)   Fall 2023
Wittgenstein's *Tractatus* (Hans Sluga)   Spring 2022
Shakespeare and the Law of Genre (Oliver Arnold)   Fall 2021
Subject, Index, Content (Mike Martin)   Fall 2021
Plato's *Sophist* (Tim Clarke)   Spring 2021
Conditionals (Seth Yalcin)   Fall 2020
Spinoza (Kristin Primus)   Fall 2020
Time and Causation in Psychology (John Campbell, Mike Martin)   Fall 2020
Vagueness (John MacFarlane)   Spring 2020

REFERENCES

Hannah Ginsborg, Willis S. and Marion Slusser Professor of Philosophy, University of California, Berkeley
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John MacFarlane, Professor, Department of Philosophy, University of California, Berkeley
     jgm@berkeley.edu

Alva Noë, Professor, Department of Philosophy, University of California, Berkeley
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Seth Yalcin, Professor, Department of Philosophy, University of California, Berkeley
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