Elizabeth Schechter

## Curriculum Vitae

Department of Philosophy, Skinner Building eschecht@umd.edu

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**Academic Positions**

Associate Professor of Philosophy 2022 –

University of Maryland, College Park (UMD)

Associate Professor of Philosophy and of Cognitive Science 2019 – 2022

Indiana University, Bloomington (IUB)

Assistant Professor of Philosophy 2011 – 2019

Washington University in St. Louis (WUSTL)

Faculty Fellow 2014 – 2015

National Humanities Center

Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow in the Philosophy of Cognitive Science 2009 – 2011

University of Oxford

**Education**

*PhD* in Philosophy University of Maryland, College Park 2009

*BA* in English Vassar College 2001

**Areas of Specialization**

Philosophy of Psychology, Philosophy of Cognitive Science, Philosophy of Mind

### Areas of Competence

Philosophy of Science, Feminist Philosophy, Philosophy of Law, Applied Ethics

# Research

**In progress**

* Gender self-deception [with Maximiliana Rifkin, accepted at *Ethics*]
* Two candidate cases of multiple personhood [under review at *Mind & Language*]
* The evidence in self-deception [in draft]

# Monograph

# *Self-Consciousness and “Split” Brains: The Minds’ I.* Oxford University Press. 2018

# Academic articles

18. Action unity of consciousness. 2025

*Philosophy and the Mind Sciences* 6. <https://philosophymindscience.org/index.php/phimisci/article/view/11812/12129>

17. Avowing the avowal view. 2024

*Australasian Journal of Philosophy* 1-18. <https://doi.org/10.1080/00048402.2024.2319781>

16. Introducing plurals. 2024

*Journal of Cognition and Neuroethics* 9: 95-141. <http://jcn.cognethic.org/jcnv9i2_Schechter.pdf>

15. Précis of *Self-consciousness and “Split” brains: The minds’ I.* 2022

(With responses to commentary by Peter Godfrey-Smith, William Lycan, and Walter Sinnott-Armstrong.) *Journal of Consciousness Studies* 29: 141-152 and 179-203.

14. Consciousness after split-brain surgery: The recent challenge to the classical picture. 2021

*Neuropsychologia* 160: 107987. [with Tim Bayne]

# 13. Split-brain: What we know now and why this is important to consciousness. 2020

# *Neuropsychology Review* <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11065-020-09439-3> [With Edward H. F. de Haan, Paul M. Corballis, Steven A. Hillyard, Carlo A. Marzi, Anil Seth, Victor A. F. Lamme, Lukas Volz, Mara Fabri, Tim Bayne, Michael Corballis, and Yair Pinto.]

12. The unity of consciousness. 2018

In R. Gennaro (Ed.), *The Routledge Companion to Consciousness,* pp. 366-378.

11. Split brains. 2017

*Routledge Encyclopedia of Philosophy.*

10. The subject in neuropsychology: Individuating minds in the split-brain case. 2015

*Mind and Language* 30: 501-525.

9. Partial unity of consciousness: A preliminary defense. 2014

In David J. Bennett and Christopher S. Hill (Eds.), *Sensory Integration and the Unity of Consciousness*, pp. 347-373. MIT Press.

8. The unity of consciousness: Subjects and objectivity. 2012

*Philosophical Studies* 165: 671-692.

7. Intentions and unified agency: Insights from the split-brain phenomenon. 2012

*Mind and Language* 27: 570-594.

6. The switch model of split-brain consciousness. 2012

*Philosophical Psychology* 25: 203-226.

5. Two unities of consciousness. 2010

*The* *European Journal of Philosophy* 21: 197-218.

4. Killing with kindness: Nature, nurture, and the female serial killer. 2010

In S. Waller (Ed.), *Serial Killers and Philosophy.* Blackwell. [with Harold Schechter]

3. Individuating mental tokens: The split-brain case. 2010

*Philosophia* 38: 195-216.

2. Persons and psychological frameworks: A critique of Tye. 2009

*Journal of Consciousness Studies* 16: 141-163.

1. Can panpsychism bridge the explanatory gap? 2006

*Journal of Consciousness Studies* 13: 32-39. [with Peter Carruthers]

**Popular media pieces**

* What we can learn about respect and identity from ‘plurals’. 2020

*Aeon,* April 20, 2020, https://aeon.co/ideas/what-we-can-learn-about-respect-and-identity-from-plurals.

**Workshops, lecture series, and international visits**

Keynote speaker, conference on borderline consciousness

University of Bonn, Germany Fall 2023

Invited speaker, Subjectivity Workshop, Science of Consciousness Conference

Taormina, Italy Summer 2023

Invited speaker, workshop on conscious unity and subjects of experience

The Science of Consciousness Conference, Italy Summer 2023

Invited speaker, colloquium series

Rotman Institute, London Ontario Fall 2022

Visiting scholar

Rotman Institute, University of Western Ontario Fall 2022

Invited speaker, Colloquium series

University of Toronto Fall 2022

Participant, workshop on empirical research with split brain subjects

University of Amsterdam, hosted by Paul Corballis and Yair Pinto Summer 2022

Invited speaker, symposium with Adam Barrett, Victor Lamme, and Yair Pinto

Association for the Scientific Study of Consciousness, Krakow Summer 2018

Visiting lecturer on split-brain consciousness (3 talk series)

University of Tokyo Winter 2017

Author, workshop on M.S.-in-progress: *Self-consciousness and “Split” Brains*

UC Santa Barbara Spring 2016

Washington University in St. Louis Spring 2016

Invited speaker, consciousness workshop

University of Manchester, U.K. Summer 2014

**Talks**

*Action Unity of Consciousness*

Guest Lecture for Grad Seminar of Ian Phillips and EJ Green, Johns Hopkins Fall 2024

*Introducing Plurals*

Webinar in Philosophy of Psychiatry Spring 2024

*Two Candidate Cases of Plural Personhood*

Speaker, NIH/Georgetown Joint Bioethics Colloquium Spring 2023

Speaker, Persons Conference, UM Flint Summer 2023

*Self-Deception: Avowing the Avowal View*

Colloquium, CUNY Graduate Center Fall 2022

*The Evidence in Self-Deception*

Colloquium, UC San Diego Fall 2022

*Conscious Agency After Split-Brain Surgery*

Speaker: SSNAP, Duke University Summer 2022

*Cross-cueing and Consciousness*

Johns Hopkins (with Peter Godfrey-Smith) Spring 2022

Keynote Speaker, Graduate Conference, Western Michigan U Fall 2021

*Self-Consciousness and “Split” Brains: The Minds’ I*

Symposium: Author Meets Critics, Pacific APA Spring 2021

*Self-consciousness in the Split-brain Subject*

Keynote Speaker, Graduate Conference, University of Connecticut Spring 2024

Center for Philosophy of Science, University of Pittsburgh Fall 2020

Symposium: Personhood and the Unity of Mental Life, Central APA Winter 2020

Morris Colloquium, UC Boulder (invited talk) Summer 2018

SPAWN Conference, Syracuse University (invited talk) Summer 2015

*Plural Identities*

Symposium: Philosophical Psychiatry, Eastern APA Winter 2020

*Consciousness After Split-brain Surgery*

Guest Lecture for Grad Seminar of Wayne Wu, Carnegie Mellon University Spring 2021

Cog Lunch, Indiana University, Bloomington Fall 2019

Guest Lecture for Grad Seminar of Ned Block and Ian Phillips, NYU Spring 2018

*How Many Minds?*

Split-brain Debate (with Joseph LeDoux and Yair Pinto), NYU Fall 2018

Consciousness and Cognition Workshop, University of Louisville (invited talk) Fall 2015

*Multiple Identities: Memory, Identity, and Self-conception*

Colloquium, University of Cincinnati (invited talk) Fall 2016

Colloquium, Southern Methodist University, TX (invited talk) Fall 2016

Moral Psychology Research Group, Tulane University Fall 2014

*On the Psychosocial Possibility of Plural Personhood*

Philosophy and Psychiatry Reading Group, UNC Spring 2015

Empirically Oriented Philosophy of Mind Workshop, NYC Summer 2014

*Self-consciousness and Psychological Subjects*

Colloquium, University of Missouri, Columbia (invited talk) Spring 2014

Colloquium, University of Michigan, Flint (invited talk) Fall 2013

Colloquium, University of Maryland, College Park (invited talk) Fall 2013

Society for Philosophy and Psychology Summer 2013

Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology Spring 2013

University of Missouri, Saint Louis (invited talk) Winter 2013

Georgia State University (invited talk) Fall 2012

PNP Colloquium, WUSTL Spring 2012

*Partial Unity of Consciousness*

Unity of Consciousness Conference, Brown University (invited talk) Fall 2011

*Intentions and Unified Agency*

Colloquium, WUSTL Spring 2012

The Mentoring Project, University of Massachusetts Summer 2011

Mind Network Meeting, Warwick University (invited talk) Spring 2011

Philosophy of Cognitive Science Workshop, Oxford University Spring 2011

Eastern Division of the American Philosophical Association Winter 2011

*Two Unities of Consciousness*

Philosophy of Cognitive Science Workshop, Oxford University Summer 2010

Corpus Christi Philosophy Lecture Series (invited talk) Spring 2010

*The Switch Model of Split-Brain Consciousness*

Colloquium, WUSTL Winter 2010

Philosophy of Cognitive Science Workshop, Oxford University Fall 2009

*The Phenomenal Contents of the Global Workspace*

Pacific APA Spring 2009

**Commentaries provided**

on Linda Zagzebski’s *Omnisubjectivity*

Central APA Winter 2025

on Valeri Latyshev’s “Unified brain, divided mind”

Eastern APA Winter 2025

on Hunter Gentry’s “Pay attention to yourself: An alternative explanation of patient RB”

Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology Fall 2020

on Nick Shea & Chris Frith’s “Dual process theories and consciousness: The case

for ‘Type Zero’ cognition”

the *Brains Blog*  Summer 2017

on Michelle Maiese’s *Embodied Selves and Divided Minds*

Central APA Spring 2017

on Zac Irving’s “Is mind-wandering unified or disunified?”

Pacific APA Spring 2016

on Peter Langland-Hassan’s “Craniopagus twins and the possibility of introspective

misidentification”

Online Consciousness Conference Spring 2013

on Tim Bayne’s *The Unity of Consciousness*

at the University of Oxford Winter 2011

on Rocco Gennaro’s “Conceptualism, HOT Theory, and the Richness Argument”

Eastern APA Winter 2009

**Honors and Awards**

Trustees Teaching Award, IUB 2021

Templeton Grant Recipient (730,508 Euros, PI Yair Pinto) 2019 – 2022

National Humanities Center Fellowship 2014 – 2015

Summer Seed Grant, Center for the Humanities, WUSTL 2013

Mellon Postdoctoral Fellowship, University of Oxford 2009 – 2011

Wylie Dissertation Fellowship, UMD 2008

**Teaching**

**Courses Taught at University of Maryland, College Park**

PHIL 879: Varieties of Belief Fall 2024

PHIL 879: Philosophy of Cognitive Neuropsychology Spring 2023

PHIL 408L: Philosophy of the Child Spring 2024

PHIL 408P: Philosophy of Psychiatry multiple semesters

PHIL 100: Introduction to Philosophy multiple semesters

**Courses Taught at Indiana University, Bloomington**

PHIL-P 470: Philosophical Issues in Cognitive Science Spring 2022

COGS-Q 240: Philosophical Foundations of Cognitive Science Fall 2021

COGS-Q 101: Introduction to Cognitive Science multiple semesters

PHIL-P 561: Philosophy of Mind Fall 2020

PHIL-P 370: Topics in Philosophy—Philosophical Issues in Psychiatry Spring 2020

PHIL-P 780: Graduate Seminar on Consciousness Fall 2019

**Courses Taught at Washington University in St. Louis**

PNP 315: Philosophy of Mind multiple semesters

MBB 122: Mind, Brain, & Behavior 2 Spring 2017, Spring 2014

PNP 200: Introduction to Cognitive Science multiple semesters

PNP 390: PNP Senior Reading Class: Parenting and Development Spring 2019

PNP 390: PNP Senior Reading Class: Reasoning and Rationality Spring 2018

PNP 495: PNP Seminar: Consciousness Fall 2017

PHIL 419: Philosophy of Psychology Fall 2016

PNP 495: PNP Seminar: Self-Knowledge Spring 2013

PNP 495: PNP Seminar: Varieties of Dissociation Spring 2012, Fall 2011

PHIL 519: Graduate seminar: Philosophical & Moral Psychology [with Charlie Kurth] Fall 2015

PNP 595: PNP Seminar: Folk Psychology Fall 2013

**Courses Taught at the University of Maryland**

PHIL 140 Contemporary Moral Issues Summer 2009, Winter 2005

PHIL 250: Philosophy of Science Spring 2009

PHIL 308C: Philosophy and Feminism multiple semesters

PHIL 308J: Sex and Death Summer 2008, Summer 2007

PHIL 347: Philosophy of Law Spring 2008, Summer 2006

**Courses Tutored at the University of Oxford**

Philosophy of Mind Spring 2010 – Spring 2011

Philosophy of Science, Neuroscience, and Psychology Spring 2010 – Spring 2011

**Independent Studies**

Maria Doulatova: *Conscious Unity and the Self*  Spring 2017

Katy Hutson: *Executive Functions* Fall 2017

Emily Prychitko: *Physics of Vision*  Fall 2017

Matthew Chan: *Functional Connectivity and Brain Injury* Fall 2015

Shaadee Samimy: *Philosophy of Psychology* Spring 2013

#### Service and Professional Activities

**Departmental and University Service**

*University of Maryland, College Park*

Scheduling Officer Fall 2024 –

Member, Search Committee for New Director, BBI Spring 2024 –

Chair’s Advisory Committee Spring 2024 –

Supervisor of Graduate Student Instructors & TAs 2022 –

Co-organizer for the Cognitive Science Colloquium Series 2022 –

Diversity Liaison 2022 –

Graduate Admissions Winter 2023

Workload Committee Fall 2022

*Indiana University, Bloomington*

Member, M & E Area Committee (Philosophy) 2019 – 2022

Member, Committee on Equity, Diversity, Inclusion & Outreach (Cognitive Science)

2020 – 2022

Judge, Midwest Undergraduate Cognitive Science Conference Spring 2021

Chair, Colloquium Committee (Philosophy) 2019 – 2021

Member, Colloquium Committee (Cognitive Science) 2019 – 2021

Member, Graduate Admissions Committee (Philosophy) Spring 2000

Organizer, Cog Lunch Series (Cognitive Science) Spring & Fall 2020

Member, Graduate Admissions Committee (Cognitive Science) Winter 2020

*Washington University in St. Louis*

Organizer, Cross-Dept Phil Sci Reading Group 2017 – 2019

Speaker, Panel on the Neural Basis of Consciousness, Synapse 2018

Coordinator, PNP Honors Program 2016 – 2018

Organizer, Women in Philosophy 2012 – 2014; 2016 – 2017

Participant, Orientation Panel for Transfer and Exchange Students Fall 2017, 2015, 2013

Member, Graduate Admissions Committee Spring 2017, Spring 2013

Member, “Nudge” Committee on Exit and QP Policies 2016

Host, Welcome Dinner for First-Year Graduate Students 2012-2016

Speaker, Workshop on External Funding in the Humanities Fall 2015

Speaker, Panel Presentation of the PNP Program

to the Spouses of the Members of the Board of Trustees Spring 2014

Chair, Committee on the State of the Graduate Program 2013 – 2014

Member, PNP Faculty Search Committee 2013 – 2014

Member, Philosophy Faculty Search Committee 2012 – 2013

**Advising and Supervision**

*University of Maryland, College Park*

PhD dissertation advisor (secondary):

to Joe Gurrola 2024 –

to Rob Ragsdale 2025 –

to Lia Fine 2022 –

to Chris Masciari, “Subjectivity and cognitive science” 2022 – 2023

Mentor:

Jeremy Schlanger 2025 –

Aidyn Cooper 2024 –

Arundhati Chakraborty 2023 –

*Indiana University, Bloomington*

PhD dissertation advisor (secondary):

to Zara Anwarzai, “The social dimension of skill and expertise” 2019 – 2024

to Alexander Webb 2019 –

to Autumn Averitt “On cognitive phenomenology” 2019 – 2022

to Dan Dake, “Judgmentalism as a vice of attention” 2019 – 2022

*Washington University in St. Louis*

PhD dissertation advisor (secondary):

to Maria Doulatova, “The feeling mind” 2019 – 2021

to Christiane Merritt, “The ontology and ethics of stereotypes and implicit bias” 2015 – 2020

to Nazim Keven, “A story to remember: Narrativity, memory, and the self” 2012 – 2016

Secondary supervisor, PNP Honors Thesis of Jeremy Fine: 2018 – 2019

“Schizophrenic risk following cannabis exposure *in utero*”

Secondary supervisor, PNP Honors Thesis of Haley Crosby: 2017 – 2018

“The effect of sleep on microglial synaptic elimination: exploring microglial

synaptic engulfment as a possible mechanism through which sleep facilitates learning”

Secondary supervisor, PNP Honors Thesis of Justin Vincent: 2017 – 2018

“Learning efficiency: Is it generalizable? Is it durable?

Primary supervisor, PNP Honors Thesis of Ben Lazarus: 2015 – 2016

“Measuring consciousness in persistent vegetative state.”

Secondary supervisor, PNP Honors Thesis of Harry Kainen: 2013 – 2014

“Using new evidence on the psychology of racial prejudice to create

a practical model of how to respond to racial injustice.”

Primary supervisor, PNP Honors Thesis of Laura Levin: 2012 – 2013

“Mindreading and Metarepresentation: Role in the Ontogeny and

Expression of Human Language Capacity.”

Primary supervisor, PNP Honors Thesis of Owen Footer: 2011 – 2012

“The Whole Loop: Folk Psychology, the Adaptive Unconscious, and Complications for a Naturalistic Account of Human Agency.”

**Service to the Profession**

Radio interview on split-brains for NB Philosophy Podcast Spring 2019

Mentor, Mentoring Program for Women in Philosophy Fall 2016

Organizer, Writing Retreat for Female Philosophers of Mind & Psych Summer 2017, 2016

Area Editor (Philosophy of Cognitive Science) for *Ergo* Spring 2023 –

Journals refereed for: *Australasian Journal of Philosophy; Frontiers in Psychology; Inquiry, Mind; Phenomenology and Cognitive Science; Nous; Pacific Philosophical Quarterly; Philosophers’ Imprint; Philosophical Psychology; Philosophical Quarterly; Philosophical Studies; Philosophy of Science; Ratio; Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy, Synthèse; WIREs Cognitive Science*

Conference submissions reviewed for:

Society for Philosophy and Psychology annual

Book drafts and proposals reviewed for:

*Oxford University Press*  2025, 2021

*Cambridge University Press* 2021

*Broadview Press*  2019

*British Academy* 2018

*Routledge* 2016, 2012

**Public Philosophy**

Interview with Justin Garson for *Psychology Today*  Fall 2023

Interview with *Spirit of the Senses* Salon (Phoenix) Spring 2021

Radio interview with Aaron Cain, WFIU Fall 2020

Radio interview on split-brains for the Consciousness Podcast Spring 2019

Four part blog series for *The Brains Blog* Fall 2018

Public lecture on split-brains at the National Humanities Center Winter 2015

Radio interviewon split-brains for Frank Stasio’s *The State of Things*, WUNC March 5, 2015

**Other Professional Activities**

Member, Phil Dept Workshopping Group (IUB) Fall 2019 – Spring 2021

Member, Faculty Writing Group (IUB) Fall 2019

Member, Cross-Dept Phil Sci Reading Group (WUSTL) Fall 2011 – Spring 2019

Member,St. Louis Female Philosophers Workshopping Group Fall 2015 – Spring 2018