Erica Shumener

*curriculum vitae*

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Syracuse University  
Syracuse, NY 13244

# Areas of specialization

Metaphysics

# Areas of competence

Philosophy of Science (general)

# Appointments

2022– Assistant Professor, Syracuse University

2015 -2022 Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy, University of Pittsburgh

2015 -2022 Resident Fellow, Center for the Philosophy of Science, University of Pittsburgh

2018 -2022 Associate Director, Center for the Philosophy of Science, University of Pittsburgh

2018 -2022 Secondary Appointment, Assistant Professor, Department of History and Philosophy of Sci- ence

Sp 2019 Visiting Faculty Member, Rutgers University

2019-20 Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Instituto de Investigaciones Filosóﬁcas, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM)

# Education

2016 Ph.D. in Philosophy, New York University. Dissertation Title: *Identity, Intrinsicality, and Laws of Nature.* Dissertation Committee: David Chalmers, Kit Fine (chair), Ted Sider.

Fall 2011 Visiting Student, Cornell University

Win 2011 &

Sum 2009

Visiting Student, Australian National University.

2008 B.A. *Summa Cum Laude* in Philosophy (with highest honors) and History, New York University

# Papers

fthc. “The Power to Govern”, *Philosophical Perspectives* fthc. “Intrinsicality and Determinacy”, *Philosophical Studies* 2021 “Humeans are out of this World”, *Synthese*

2021 “Do Identity and Distinctness Facts Threaten the PSR?”, *Philosophical Studies*

2020 “Identity” for the *Routledge Handbook on Ground*

2020 “Explaining Identity and Distinctness” *Philosophical Studies*

2019 “Building and Surveying: Relative Fundamentality in Bennett’s *Making Things Up*,” *Analysis*

2017 “Laws of Nature, Explanation, and Semantic Circularity,” *The British Journal for Philosophy of Science* (Editor’s Choice)

2017 “The Metaphysics of Identity,” *Philosophy Compass*

# (Short) Book

fthc. *Identity* a volume for the *Cambridge Elements Series*, Cambridge University Press

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|  | Fellowships, grants, honors, etc. |
| 2019–20 | Beca Posdoctoral, IIFs UNAM |
| 2014-15 | Mellon Dissertation Fellowship |
| 2012-13 | Graduate Student Fellow, New York Institute of Philosophy: Foundations of Epistemology |
| 2010 | New York University Travel Grant |
| 2008-13 | MacCracken Dissertation Fellowship, New York University |
| 2008 | elected *Phi Beta Kappa* |
| 2007 | Salomonowitz Memorial Prize, awarded by the New York University Philosophy Department |
| 2007 | (one recipient per year)  John W. Wilkes Memorial Prize, awarded by the New York University History Department |
|  | Presentations |
| 2022 | “Physicalism as a Nomic Thesis”, Umea University (Research Seminar Series) |
| 2022 | “Powerful Explanations”, Central APA Symposium on Laws and Dispositions |
| 2021 | “Physicalism as a Nomic Thesis”, University of Geneva (Reading Group) |
| 2021 | “Physicalism as a Nomic Thesis”, University of Massachusetts-Amherst (Colloquium) |
| 2021 | “Qua-Relations”, Central APA Symposium on Relations |
| 2021 | “The Power to Govern”, Center for the Philosophy of Science, University of Pittsburgh |
| 2020 | “The Distinctness of Objects Near and Far”, University of Indiana-Bloomington, (Metaphysics |
| 2020 | Meetup)  “Are the Laws of Nature Intrinsic to the Universe?”, Simon Fraser University (Workshop on |
| 2020 | Causation, Modality, and Explanation )  “A Problem with Identity” Syracuse University (Colloquium) |
| 2020 | “The Distinctness of Objects Near and Far”, Texas Tech (Colloquium) |
| 2020 | “The Distinctness of Objects Near and Far”, Speaker Series at UNAM |
| 2019 | Commentary on Oscar Monroy’s “Truth is not Enough”, UNAM |
| 2019 | “Governance and Necessitation”, FRAMEphys Workshop on Laws of Nature and Grounding, |
| 2019 | University of Birmingham  Commentary on Harjit Bhogal’s “Induction and the Glue of the World”, Humean Laws Work- |
| 2019 | shop, Harvard University  “A Problem with Identity”, University of Maryland, College Park (colloquium) |
| 2019 | “Governance with only Necessitation”, Paciﬁc APA Metaphysics of Science Group |
| 2019 | “A Problem with Identity”, Diaphora Conference on Philosophical Methodology, University of  Barcelona |
| 2018 | Commentary on Trenton Merricks’ “Identity and What Matters”, 2018 New England Workshop |
| 2018 | on Metaphysics  Commentary on Agustín Rayo’s “The Open-Endedness of Logical Space”, University of North |
| 2018 | Carolina Chapel Hill Colloquium  “Properties, Facts, and Object-Identity”, Objects and Properties: Generating Dialogue, Univer- |
| 2018 | sity of Cambridge  “Grounding and Identity”, Hamburg Workshop on Ground, PHLOX |
| 2018 | “Explaining Identity and Distinctness”.  April 2018 Conference on the Principle of Sufficient Reason, Simon Fraser University March 2018 Philosophy Mountain Workshop, Telluride, Colorado |
| 2017 | “Against Fundamental Identity and Distinctness”, Conference on Personal Identity, Paros, Greece |
| 2017 | Commentary on Chris Dorst’s “Why are the Laws so Useful?” CU Boulder Conference on the History and Philosophy of Science, University of Colorado Boulder. |
| 2017 | Commentary on Marianna Antonutti Marfori’s “Indirect Mathematical Naturalism” Pre-Tenure Workshop for Women in Philosophy, University of Utah |
| 2017 |  |

Commentary on Rebecca Chan’s “Ethics-First Metaphysics” Pre-Tenure Workshop for Women in Philosophy, University of Utah

2017 “A Minimal Account of Governance” Iris Einheuser Memorial Lecture, Duke University

2017 “A Minimal Account of Governance” SPAWN workshop, Syracuse University

2017 “A Minimal Account of Governance” Junior Metaphysics Workshop, Virginia Tech

2017 “Physicalism without Ground” Pre-Tenure Workshop for Women in Philosophy, University of Utah

2017 “Physicalism without Ground” Ranch Metaphysics Workshop

2017 “Commentary on Jonathan Schaffer’s ‘The World for Explanation’ ” Sociedad Filosóﬁca Ibero Americana (SOFIA) XXI Conference

2016 “Physicalism without Ground” Grounding and Consciousness Conference University of Birm- ingham

2016 “Intrinsicality, Grounding, and Parthood” Workshop on the Metaphysics of Ground University of Texas at Austin

2016 “Commentary on Ted Sider’s ‘Object-Free Ontology”’, American Philosophical Association Meet- ing, Central Division

2015 “Hempel, Explanation and Circularity” University of Toronto M &E Group

Hempel and Beyond Workshop, University of Cologne

2015 “Commentary on Jon Litland’s “Bicollective Ground” American Philosophical Association Meet- ing, Paciﬁc Division

2015 “Silliness, Loneliness, and Intrinsicality” University of Notre Dame

University of Pittsburgh Northern Illinois University Yale University

2014 “Explaining Identity and Distinctness” Bellingham Summer Philosophy Conference, Western Washington University

2014 “Grounding Questions” Recent Work on the Logic of Ground Workshop, University of Oslo

2013 “How the Laws of Nature Govern” Women in Metaphysics Retreat and Workshop (supported by the Princeton, Rutgers, and NYU philosophy departments)

2012 Commentary on Ryan Perkins’ “Of Grounding and Explanation” 12th Annual Columbia-NYU Philosophy Conference, New York University

2011 “Truthmaking: Problems with the Monistic Approach” Australian National University, Kioloa Postgraduate Conference.

2011 “Exploring Hyperintensional Approaches to Intrinsicality” Australian National University Phi- losophy Society Seminar.

2010 Commentary on Karen Bennett’s “Construction Area (No Hard Hat Required)” Bellingham Summer Philosophy Conference, Western Washington University

# Teaching

*Undergraduate*

S21 20th Century Analytic Philosophy (Pitt)

S17,S18 F18 Freedom and Determinism (Pitt)

S18, F21 Introduction to Philosophical Problems (Pitt)

F16, F17 Metaphysics (Pitt)

F15, F16 Concepts of Human Nature (Pitt)

S14 Introductory Logic (NYU)

Sum13 Epistemology (NYU)

Sum12 Central Problems in Philosophy (NYU)

*Graduate*

F21 Personal Identity (co-taught with Jennifer Whiting) (Pitt)

S21 Metaphysics and Time-Biases (Pitt)

F20, S22 Metaphysics and Epistemology Core Proseminar (Pitt)

F17 Laws of Nature (Pitt)

S17 The Metaphysics of Relations (Pitt)

S16 Metaphysics Seminar: Explanation and Fundamentality (Pitt)

Sum 2018,

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Miscellaneous

“Laws of Nature”, Pittsburgh Summer Program 2: A Summer Program in Philosophy of Science for Underrepresented Groups

# Supervising (all at Pitt)

*Graduate*

2017-? Prospectus/Dissertation Committee member for Annika Froese, Daniel Kaplan, Leona Mollica, Travis McKenna, Willy Penn, and Rachael Driver.

Fall 2016-? Comprehensive examination committee member for Rachael Driver, Jason Kay, Leona Mollica, Travis McKenna, Annika Froese, Sophia Arbeiter, Beishi Hao, and Alnica Visser.

2016-? Teaching Mentor for Jasmin Özel, Maximillion Tegtmeyer, Alnica Visser, Shivam Patel, Elena Garadja

*Undergraduate*

Sum 2017 Advisor to Jennifer Liu, “Scaling from Micro to Macro: Philosophical Investigations of the Living Through Art”, Brackenridge Summer Fellowship

# Department and Professional Service

2021-2 Pitt Director of Graduate Admissions 2021 Pitt Horowitz Award Committee 2020-1 Pitt Placement Director

2020 Shut Up and Write, UNAM

2019 Workshop Organizer, MAWM (*Midwest Annual Workshop in Metaphysics*) at the University of Pittsburgh

18-19, 16-17 Faculty Liaison, Pitt Graduate Student-Faculty Liaison Committee

2018-19 Member, Pitt Faculty Search Committee

2018 Member, Pitt Department Chair Nomination Committee

2017-18 Co-Director, Pitt Graduate Admissions Committee

17-19, 15-16 Member, Pitt Colloquium Committee

Fall 2017 Leader, *Shut Up and Write*, Pitt Philosophy

2016-18 Faculty Ambassador, Pitt Undergraduate Philosophy Club

2016-17 Scribe, Pitt Graduate Admissions Committee

2016-?? Planning Committee, *Midwest Annual Metaphysics Workshop*

2015 Co-organizer (with Zee R. Perry), Workshop on the Metaphysics of Quantity at NYU

2012 Assistant Organizer, *California Metaphysics Conference at USC*

2012-13 Member, NYU Colloquium Committee

2010-12 Co-organizer, *NYU Metaphysics Bootcamp Workshop*

2009-10 Member, NYU Committee on Women and Minority Hiring

2009 Co-organizer, *9th Annual NYU-Columbia University Graduate Student Conference in Philosophy*

ongoing Referee for: *Analysis* (2019), *The Australasian Journal of Philosophy* (2019), *BJPS* (2021), *Dialectica*

(2013, 2018), *Erkenntnis* (2014, 2021), *Inquiry* (2018), *Journal of the APA* (2019), *Journal of Philosophy*

(2019), *Metaphysics* (2019), *Nous* (2020, 2021, 2022) *Philosophers’ Imprint* (2017), *Philosophical Quar-*

*terly* (2018, 2021), *Philosophical Studies* (2014, 2016, 2017, 2019, 2021), *Philosophy and Phenomenolog-*

*ical Research* (2017, 2019), *Philosophy of Science* (2018), *Res Philosophica* (2015), *Synthese* (2017, 2019,

2020), *Thought* (editorial panel member: 2015-18)

# References

David Chalmers Ned Markosian

New York University University of Massachusetts, Amherst

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