

KEVIN J.S. ZOLLMAN

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Education

Ph.D., Philosophy, University of California, Irvine 2007
Dissertation: "Network Epistemology"
Committee: Brian Skyrms (chair), P. Kyle Stanford, and Jeffrey Barrett

M.A., Philosophy, University of California, Irvine, 2005

B.S., Philosophy, Kansas State University, Manhattan, 2002

Academic Positions

Herbert Simon Postdoctoral Fellowship in Scientific Philosophy
Carnegie Mellon University (2008- current)

Areas of Specialization

Game Theory, Philosophy of Science, Philosophy of Biology

Areas of Competence

Decision Theory, Epistemology, Social and Political Philosophy (especially Hobbes), Naturalism, Logic

Publications

Zollman, Kevin J.S. and Rory Smead (forthcoming) Plasticity and Language: An Example of the Baldwin Effect? *Philosophical Studies*
Zollman, Kevin J.S. (forthcoming) Social Structure and the Effects of Conformity. *Synthese*

- Huttegger, Simon, Brian Skyrms, Rory Smead, and Kevin Zollman (forthcoming) Evolutionary Dynamics of Lewis Signaling Games: Signaling Systems vs. Partial Pooling. *Synthese*
- Zollman, Kevin J.S. (2008) Explaining fairness in complex environments. *Politics, Philosophy, and Economics* 7(1): 81-97.
- Zollman, Kevin J.S. (2007) The communication structure of epistemic communities. *Philosophy of Science* 74(5): 574-587
- Zollman, Kevin J.S. (2005) Talking to neighbors: The evolution of regional meaning. *Philosophy of Science* 72:69-85.
- Zollman, Kevin and Dean Zollman (1997). Creating sample searchable databases on the web. *Computers in Physics* 11: 225-228.
- Zollman, Kevin and Dean Zollman (1997). Posting physics documents on the web. *Computers in Physics*, 11, pp. 133-137.
- Zollman, Kevin and Dean Zollman (1997). Web activities in an introductory class. *International Journal of Modern Physics* C8: 97-105.
- Zollman, Kevin and Dean Zollman (1997). Interactive forms on the web. *Computers in Physics* 11: 17-20.

Working Papers

- Huttegger, Simon, Brian Skyrms, Rory Smead, and Kevin Zollman (2007) Evolutionary Dynamics of Lewis Signaling Games: Signaling Systems vs. Partial Pooling. *University of California, Irvine – Institute for Mathematical Behavioral Sciences, Technical Report 07-01*

Invited Talks

- Zollman, Kevin J.S. (2004) “Signaling and the Stag Hunt” University of Konstanz, Konstanz, Germany.
- Zollman, Kevin J.S. (2004) “Evolution and Signaling Games” University of Konstanz, Konstanz, Germany.
- Zollman, Kevin J.S. (2004) “Introduction to Evolutionary Game Theory” University of Konstanz, Konstanz, Germany.

Conference Presentations

- Zollman, Kevin J.S. (2008) “Network Epistemology” Formal Methods in Philosophy Workshop, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
- Smead, Rory and Kevin J.S. Zollman (2008) “The Reduction of Strategic Plasticity.” Formal Epistemology Workshop, Madison, Wisconsin.
- Zollman, Kevin J.S. and Rory Smead (2008) “The Reduction of Strategic Plasticity: Evolution, Game Theory, and the Baldwin Effect” Skyrmsfest: 2008 Laguna Workshop in Honor of Brian Skyrms, Laguna Beach, California.

- Zollman, Kevin J.S. (2007) “The Epistemic Benefit of Transient Diversity” Formal Epistemology Workshop, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
- Zollman, Kevin J.S. (2006) “The Communication Structure of Epistemic Communities” Philosophy of Science Association Meeting, Vancouver, British Colombia
- Zollman, Kevin J.S. (2006) “The Communication Structure of Epistemic Communities” North American Computing and Philosophy Conference, Troy, New York
- Zollman, Kevin J.S. (2005) “Game Theoretic Explanations in Complex Environments” North American Computing and Philosophy Conference, Corvallis, Oregon.
- Zollman, Dean, Kirsten Hogg, Solomon Itza-Ortiz, and Kevin Zollman (2002) “An Online Modern Physics Course for In-Service Teachers.” American Association of Physics Teachers Winter Meeting. (Contributed)
- Zollman, Kevin and Dean Zollman (1996). “Providing class information of the web: Browsers, Programs, Plugins, and Links.” American Association of Physics Teachers Summer Meeting. (Invited)
- Zollman, Kevin and Dean Zollman (1995). "Using the World Wide Web in teaching and curriculum development," American Association of Physics Teachers Summer Meeting. (Contributed)
- Zollman, Kevin and Dean Zollman (1994). “Using Toolbook to construct interactive physics lessons.” National Conference on Computers in Physics Teaching. Torun, Poland.
- Zollman, Kevin and Dean Zollman (1994). “SharePhys: distributing physics software over the internet.” American Association of Physics Teachers Summer Meeting. (Contributed)

Teaching Experience

Herbert Simon Postdoctoral Fellow, Carnegie Mellon University (2008-current)
Graduate Courses: Game Theory and Evolution of Signaling; Rational Choice
Undergraduate Course: Rational Choice

Teaching Associate, University of California, Irvine (Spring 2007)
Responsibilities include: designing class syllabus, preparing and giving lectures, preparing assignments, and supervising teaching assistants

Course: Philosophy of Law

Teaching Assistant, University of California, Irvine (2002-2007)
Responsibilities include: leading discussion sections, proctoring tests, and grading written work.

Courses: Probability and Statistics; Philosophy of Biology; Honors Introduction to the Social Sciences: Naturalized Epistemology; Epistemology; Philosophy of Law; Introduction to Symbolic Logic; and Inductive Logic.

Summer Debate Workshop, Kansas State University (1999-2001)

A three week intensive debate workshop for high school students. Responsibilities included supervising research, preparing and giving lectures, and supervising dorms.

Assistant Debate Coach, Washburn Rural High School (2000-2002)

Responsibilities included: preparing and giving lectures, assisting with tournament preparations, judging debate rounds, and supervising students.

Fall Debate Workshop, Kansas State University (1997-2000)

A one day free workshop for high school students. Responsibilities included preparing and giving lectures and giving a demonstration debate.

Grants

“Developing Modules for the 29, 30, 31 Sequence Utilizing the Wiki Framework” (2006) Department of Logic and Philosophy of Science, University of California, Irvine (with Sam Hillier, Waldemar Rohloff, and Carla Valenzuela).

“Web Based Enrichment and Evaluation in the Social Science Honors Sequence” (2005) Division of Undergraduate Education, University of California, Irvine (with Preston Kyle Stanford, Jeffrey Barrett, and Sam Hillier).

Scholastic Awards

American Council of Learned Societies/Andrew W. Mellon Foundation
Dissertation Completion Fellowship (*Awarded for AY 2007-2008*).¹

Regents Dissertation Writing Fellowship, University of California, Irvine (2006)

Logic and Philosophy of Science Summer Research Fellowship, University of California, Irvine (2006, 2007)

Regents Pre-Dissertation Writing Fellowship, University of California, Irvine (2005)

¹ This fellowship was declined in order to accept the Herbert Simon Postdoctoral Fellowship in Scientific Philosophy.

Justine Lambert Prize in the Foundations of Science for the paper “Talking to Neighbors: The Evolution of Regional Meaning” University of California, Irvine (2005)

Institute for Mathematical Behavioral Sciences Summer Research Fellowship, University of California, Irvine (2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007)

Social Science Summer Research Fellowship, University of California, Irvine (2003, 2004, 2005, 2006)

Social Science Fellowship, University of California, Irvine (2002-2003)

Academic Service

Co-editor (with Brad Armendt) of an issue of *Philosophical Studies*

Reviewer for *Philosophy of Science* (2005)

Departmental Graduate Student Representative, University of California, Irvine (2004-2005).

Editor (2004-current) and administrator (2005-current) of the English language Wikipedia.

Dissertation Summary

Network Epistemology

My dissertation focuses on the ways in which experimental results are communicated amongst individual epistemic agents. Using techniques drawn from evolutionary game theory and the study of social networks, I construct and analyze formal models of epistemic behavior. By analyzing these models we can discover features of actual groups which make them more or less reliable. Through the use of computer simulation, I have uncovered several features of communities which would, considered a priori, appear counterproductive to reliability but, in fact, increase the reliability of the community. Many of these features would make the individuals in the community less reliable, but when adopted by all the members of a group, make the group as a whole more reliable. This suggests, that in certain contexts, there may be a conflict between individually optimal epistemic behavior and optimal group level behavior. While the models are generally written with an eye to science, the results are applicable to a wide variety of epistemic situations, including juries, consumer behavior, and technology adoption.

Courses Taken as a graduate student*(s) denotes courses taken for grade of "satisfactory"**(iu) denotes courses audited at Indiana University, Bloomington*

Philosophy of Social Science	Brian Skyrms, Louis Narens, Donald Saari
Social Dynamics	Brian Skyrms, Louis Narens, Donald Saari
Game Theory I & II	Micheal McBride
Concept. Foundations of Probability	Brian Skyrms and Louis Narens
Intro. to Measurement Theory	Louis Narens
Game Theory and Knowledge	Aldo Antonelli and Brian Skyrms
Social Contract	Nicholas Jolley
Hobbes' Leviathan	Nicholas Jolley
Naturalism and Normativity (<i>iu</i>)	Adam Leite and Kevin Toh
Set Theory	Penelope Maddy
Metalogic	G. Aldo Antonelli
Incompleteness	Kent Johnson
Proof Theory (<i>s</i>)	Kai Wehmeier
Philosophy of Logic I & II	Penelope Maddy
Philosophy of Mathematics I (<i>s</i>)	Penelope Maddy
Scientific Realism	P. Kyle Stanford
Scientific Explanation (<i>s</i>)	P. Kyle Stanford
Intro to Confirmation Theory (<i>s</i>)	Ben Escoto
Naturalism, Prag., and Phil. Sci. (<i>iu</i>)	Elisabeth Llyod and Christopher Martin
Epistemology of Science (<i>s</i>)	Jeffrey Barrett
Probability and Determinism	David Malament
Quantum Mechanics	Jeffrey Barrett
Geometry and Space-time (<i>s</i>)	David Malament
Philosophy of Biology: Ev. Psych.	P. Kyle Stanford
Causation and Laws in Ev. Bio. (<i>s</i>)	P. Kyle Stanford
Genes and Genetic Causation (<i>s</i>)	P. Kyle Stanford
Evolution of Language (<i>s</i>)	P. Kyle Stanford
Naturalism I & II (<i>s</i>)	Penelope Maddy
Kant's First Critique	William Bristow
Word-World Connections I & II (<i>s</i>)	Penelope Maddy