

Kristi A. Olson

CONTACT INFORMATION

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Bowdoin College

Associate Professor, Department of Philosophy (2021-present)
Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy (2014-2021)

Stanford University

Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science (2012-14)

Princeton University

Harold T. Shapiro Bioethics Research Associate & Lecturer (2010-12)

EDUCATION

Harvard University, Ph.D. Philosophy, Nov. 2010

Dissertation: *Justice, Unequal Talents, and the Market*

Committee: Thomas M. Scanlon (chair), Frances Kamm, and Amartya Sen

Harvard University, A.M. Health Policy, Nov. 2009 (completed coursework for Ph.D.)

Duke University, J.D., with honors, May 1996

Indiana University, B.A., with high honors, Music and Geography, Dec. 1992

PUBLICATIONS

Book

The Solidarity Solution: Principles for a Fair Income Distribution (Oxford University Press, 2020).

Reviews:

“Olson’s book is exceptional, and is an exemplar of how analytic philosophy, done well, can yield important insights about matters of public policy ...” Jonathan Quong, University of Southern California

“Olson’s book, my minor points notwithstanding, is truly impressive. It leaves no stone unturned. It is meticulous and carefully argued. Anyone wishing to engage with fairness in work, talents and leisure would have to reckon with what Olson has to say on the matter.”

Shlomi Segall, *Analysis*

Articles

“A Philosopher’s Guide to Multidimensional Equality,” *Philosophy Compass* 17 (2022): 1-10.

“The Importance of What We Care About: A Solidarity Approach to Resource Allocation,” *Political Studies* (2020): 1-17.

**PUBLICATIONS
(cont.)**

“Impersonal Envy and the Fair Division of Resources,” *Philosophy & Public Affairs* 46 (2018): 269-292.

“Solving Which Trilemma? The Many Interpretations of Equality, Pareto, and Freedom of Occupational Choice,” *Politics, Philosophy & Economics* 16 (2017): 282-307.

“Autarky as a Moral Baseline,” *Canadian Journal of Philosophy* 44 (2014): 264-285.

“Our Choices, Our Wage Gap?” *Philosophical Topics* 40 (2012): 45-61.

“The Endowment Tax Puzzle,” *Philosophy & Public Affairs* 38 (2010): 240-271.

Book Reviews & Dictionary Entries

“Leisure” in *The Cambridge Rawls Lexicon*, ed. by Jon Mandle and David E. Reidy (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2015), pp. 433-434.

“Review of *Health and Social Justice* by Jennifer Prah Ruger and *Health, Luck, and Justice* by Shlomi Segall,” *Perspectives on Politics* 10 (2012): 490-92.

**WORKS IN
PROGRESS**

Book Manuscript

Abortion Arguments: An Analytical Approach to the Debate (with Scott Sehon)

**TEACHING
EXPERIENCE**

Bowdoin College, Assistant Professor/Associate Professor

Analyzing Abortion Arguments (forthcoming 2023)

Ethics & the Embryo (2021)

Ethics and Public Policy (2021, 2022)

Logic (2014, 2021S, 2021F)

Theories of Economic Fairness (2020, 2022)

Ethics of Climate Change (2016, 2017, 2019, 2020)

Crime & Punishment (2015, 2016, 2018, 2019)

What Is Equality? (2019, 2020)

Political Philosophy (2019, 2020)

Philosophical Issues of Gender & Race (2015, 2016, 2018)

Morality of War (2015, 2017)

Theories of Equality (2016)

Moral Problems (2015)

Stanford University, Assistant Professor

Egalitarianism: Graduate Seminar (2014)

Political Theory Workshop (2013, 2014)

Contemporary Moral Problems (2013, 2014)

Justice (2012)

**TEACHING
EXPERIENCE
(cont.)**

Princeton University, Lecturer

Morals, Markets, and Health (2011, 2012)

Harvard University, Teaching Fellow

The Morality of War and Terrorism (2007)

Deductive Logic (2006)

Kant's Ethical Theory (2006)

Harvard's Kennedy School of Gov't, Teaching Fellow/Course Assistant

Responsibilities of Public Action (2005)

Empirical Methods II (2002)

Quantitative Analysis and Empirical Methods I (2001)

**HONORS &
AWARDS**

Philip L. Quinn Fellowship, National Humanities Center. 2022-23

Andrew W. Mellon Award, Bowdoin College. 2017

Emily and Charles Carrier Dissertation Prize, Harvard University. 2011

Whiting Dissertation Completion Fellowship, Harvard University. 2009-2010

American Philosophical Association (Pacific), Graduate Student Prize. 2009

Project on Justice, Welfare, and Economics Graduate Fellowship. 2008-09

Edmond J. Safra Graduate Fellowship in Ethics. 2007-08

Kennedy School, Dean's Award for Excellence in Student Teaching. 2006

International Society for Utilitarian Studies, Graduate Student Paper Prize. 2005

National Science Foundation Graduate Student Fellowship. 2002-03, 2005-07

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality Training Grant. 2001-02

Neill James Blue Scholarship, Duke Law School. 1993-96

Phi Beta Kappa. Indiana University. 1992

**SELECTED
PRESENTATIONS**

PEA Soup Discussion of "The Solidarity Solution," online (Mar. 2022)

"The Solidarity Solution: Principles for a Fair Income Distribution," Seoul National University (Nov. 2020).

"How Should We Measure Multidimensional Inequality? A Philosopher's Approach (with COVID Applications)," Institute for International Economic Policy, George Washington University (July 2020)

"The Labor Auction Thought Experiment," Law & Philosophy Workshop, Cornell University (Oct. 2019)

"The Cooperative Ideal," Social Justice Workshop, Concordia University and the Universite de Montreal (Aug. 2019)

"Impersonal Envy and the Fair Division of Resources," Duke University Philosophy Colloquium (Nov. 2018)

**SELECTED
PRESENTATIONS
(cont.)**

“Rational Egalitarians: A Critique of the Normative Foundations of Paretian Economics,” Colloquium in Political & Legal Philosophy, Queen’s University, Canada (Oct. 2017)

“Two Interpretations of Fairness,” Bechtel Workshop in Moral and Political Philosophy, University of Pennsylvania (May 2017)

“Van Parijs’ Undominated Diversity and the Solidarity Interpretation of Fairness,” Graduate Seminar, University of Southern California (Apr. 2017)

“The Other Fairness,” Program in Ethics and Public Affairs, Princeton University (Mar. 2017)

“The Solidarity Solution: Fairness as a Relational Ideal,” Moral Philosophy Seminar, University of Oxford (Jan. 2017)

“The Anatomy of Envy-Freeness,”
 Eastern Division Meeting, American Philosophical Association (Jan. 2017)
 Dartmouth College Political Economy Project (May 2016)
 Harvard University, Celebration of the Philosophy and Teaching of T.M. Scanlon (Apr. 2016)
 Bates College Philosophy Department (Mar. 2016)
 UCLA School of Law, Legal Theory Workshop (Jan. 2016)

“Equality, Matters of Taste, and the Incentives Debate,” Justice at Work Conference, Pozen Family Center for Human Rights, University of Chicago (Oct. 2016)

“Envy-Freeness and the Minimal Acceptability Test,” Conference on Normative Ethics and Welfare Economics, University of Chicago (Oct. 2014)

“Fair Pay,” NYU Colloquium in Legal, Political, & Social Philosophy (Sept. 2014)

“Fairness, Envy-Freeness, and Taxation,” UCLA Colloquium on Tax Policy & Financing (Mar. 2014)

“What, If Anything, Could Justify the Gender Wage Gap?” Harvard University Political Theory Colloquium (Oct. 2013)

“The Conflation of Choice and Hard Work,” Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress, University of Colorado (Aug. 2013)

“The Moral Status of the Unborn,” Stanford Constitutional Law Center, *Roe at 40: What We Have Learned* (Mar. 2013)

“Autarky as a Moral Baseline,” Melden Workshop on Aaron James’s *Fairness in Practice: A Social Contract for a Global Economy*, UC Irvine (Mar. 2013)

“Rethinking Inequality: Philosophical Reflections on Recent Empirical Research on the Gender Wage Gap,” University of Ottawa (Nov. 2012)

**SELECTED
PRESENTATIONS
(cont.)**

“Choice and Inequality,” University Center for Human Values, Princeton University (Mar. 2012)

“The Pareto Challenge to Equality,” Stanford University (Sept. 2011)

“Gretzky’s Rent and Coal Miners’ Burdens,” Contractarian Moral Theory: The 25th Anniversary of *Morals by Agreement*, York University (May 2011)

“Contractualism, the Numbers Problem, and the Justification for Fair Lotteries,” University Center for Human Values, Princeton University (Mar. 2011)

“The Malibu Surfer and the Right to Health Care,” Ira W. DeCamp Bioethics Seminars, Princeton University (Nov. 2010)

“Equality of Resources and the Equally Talented Society,” American Philosophical Association, Pacific Division, Vancouver, BC (Apr. 2009)

“Incentives or Special Burdens: When Are Greater Rewards to the Talented Justified?” Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress, University of Colorado (Aug. 2008)

“Scanlon’s Precarious Balancing Act: Another Reason for Skepticism about Saving the Many,” International Society for Utilitarian Studies, Dartmouth College (Aug. 2005)

**INVITED
COMMENTS**

None Above: A Philosophy of Social Hierarchy (book manuscript workshop for Niko Kolodny), University of Southern California (May 2021)

Zofia Stemplowska, “Equality of Attention,” Politics, Philosophy, and Economics 2021 Conference (Feb. 2021)

Javier Hidalgo, “Who Has a Principled Case for Open Borders?” Politics, Philosophy, and Economics 2020 Conference, Tulane University, New Orleans, (Mar. 2020)

Debra Satz, “Equality and Adequacy as Distributive Ideals for Education,” Lindner Lecture, The College of Wooster, Ohio (Oct. 2017)

Frances Kamm, “Torture,” Northwestern Society for the Theory of Ethics and Politics, Northwestern University (May 2015)

Matthew Weinzierl, “Revisiting the Classical View of Benefit-Based Taxation,” Conference on Normative Ethics and Welfare Economics, University of Chicago (Oct. 2014)

Justice in Production (book manuscript roundtable for Lucas Stanczyk), Midwest Political Science Association Meeting (Apr. 2014)

Epistemology and Political Theory (papers by Eric Beerbohm, Yvonne Chiu, Alexander Guerrero, and Helene Landemore), American Political Science Association Annual Meeting (Sept. 2013)

Chiara Cordelli, "Relational Distributive Justice," Stanford Political Theory Workshop (Feb. 2013)

Sarah Conly, "One Child: Do We Really Have the Right to More?" Feminist Political Theory Speaker Series, Princeton University (Mar. 2012)

Pablo Gilabert, "In Defense of the Human Right to Democracy," University Center for Human Values, Princeton University (Feb. 2012)

Corey Brettschneider, "When the State Speaks, What Should It Say?" University Center for Human Values, Princeton University (Oct. 2010)

Udo Schüklenk and Christopher Lowry, "The Moral Basis of Global Health Aid," American Philosophical Association, New York City (Dec. 2009)

Rahul Kumar, "Why Reparations?" Conference on the Grounds of Justice: An Essay on Global Political Philosophy, Harvard University (May 2008)

**LEGAL & POLICY
EXPERIENCE**

Harvard's Kennedy School of Government, Cambridge, MA

Research Assistant (2001-03, part-time)

Researched technology-forcing environmental regulations for Professor Edward Parson.

National Health Law Program, Chapel Hill, NC

Staff Attorney (1996-2000); Consultant (2001-03, part-time)

Analyzed legislation; participated in impact litigation; provided technical assistance and trainings to policymakers, attorneys, disability and civil rights advocates; coauthored grant proposals and reports on such issues as Medicaid services for children, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and due process rights.

National Center for Youth Law (with National Health Law), Chapel Hill, NC

Law Clerk (1995-96)

Analyzed federal and state laws for best practices in adolescent health.

Court-Appointed Child Advocate, Durham, NC

Pro Bono Legal Representative (1993-94)

**PROFESSIONAL
SERVICE**

The Profession

Associate Editor, *Philosophy & Public Affairs* (2022-Present)

Associate Editor, *Politics, Philosophy & Economics* (2019-Present)

Reviewer for: *International Panel on Social Progress* (2016)

Book Proposal Reviewer for: Routledge Press (2021)

Consultant for: Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (2011)

Referee for: *Economics and Philosophy*; *Ethics*; *Journal of Applied Philosophy*; *Journal of Ethics and Social Philosophy*; *Journal of Political Philosophy*; *Journal of Politics*; *Journal of Social Philosophy*; *Moral Philosophy and Politics*; *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly*; *Philosophical Quarterly*; *Philosophy & Public Affairs*;

**PROFESSIONAL
SERVICE
(cont.)**

Politics, Philosophy & Economics; Public Philosophy Journal; Social Theory and Practice

Bowdoin College

Faculty Development Committee, Teaching Subcommittee (2018-2022)

Environmental Studies Program Committee (2016-Present)

Judicial Board (2015-17)

Summer Working Group on Writing and Rhetoric (2016)

Summer Working Group on Bowdoin Course Questionnaire (2016)

Stanford University

Faculty Coordinator, Political Theory Workshop (2013-14)

Graduate Admissions Committee (2013-14)

Advisory Board & Faculty Associate, Center for Ethics in Society (2012-14)

Political Theory Field Convenor (2012-13)