

JOHN C. McCARTHY
School of Philosophy
The Catholic University of America
Washington, DC 20064
202-319-5259
mccartjc@cua.edu

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

The Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C.

Dean, 2011-

Interim Dean, 2010–2011

Associate Dean, 2008–2010

Assistant Dean, 1999–2000

Associate Professor, 1996–

Assistant Professor, 1990–1996

Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Milan, Italy

Visiting Scholar, 2000-2001

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Philosophy, with distinction, The Catholic University of America, 1988

Dissertation: “Husserl’s Concept of Categorial Form”

Director: Robert Sokolowski

M.A. in Philosophy, The Catholic University of America, 1982

Thesis: “Mastery and Method in Bacon’s *Novum organum*”

Director: Richard Kennington

B.A. in Philosophy, with high distinction, St. Michael’s College, The University of Toronto, 1979

AREAS OF INTEREST

Early modern philosophy; political philosophy; Husserlian phenomenology

PUBLICATIONS

A. Books

Editor, *Modern Enlightenment and the Rule of Reason*. Washington, D.C.: The Catholic University of America Press, 1998.

B. Articles & Book Chapters

“Notes on Fatherhood,” *Anthropotes*, 36 (2019): 149-76.

“John M. Rist, In Lieu of an Introduction,” in *Passionate Mind: Essays in Honor of John M. Rist*, edited by Barry David (Baden-Baden: Academia Verlag, 2019), 43-51. Also in an earlier version, under the title, “Introduction of John M. Rist, 2014 Aquinas Medal Recipient,” *Proceedings of the American Catholic Philosophical Association* 88 (2014): 13-16.

- “Paternità,” in *Dizionario Sesso, Amore e Fecondità*, edited by José Noriega and René Ecochard (Siena, Italy: Cantagalli, 2019), 689-97.
- “Bacon’s Third Sailing: The ‘Pre–Socratic’ Origins of Modern Philosophy,” in *Early Greek Philosophy: Reason at the Beginning of Philosophy*, edited by Joe McCoy (Washington, D.C.: The Catholic University of America Press, 2013), 157-88.
- “Seeing the Unseen,” in *Person, Being, and History: Essays in Honor of Kenneth Schmitz*, edited by Michael Baur and Robert E. Wood (Washington, D.C.: The Catholic University of America Press, 2011), 307-24.
- “Descartes’ Feeble Spirits,” in *Weakness of the Will from Plato to the Present*, edited by Tobias Hoffmann (Washington, D.C.: The Catholic University of America Press, 2008), 175–209.
- “Notes on Cartesian Freedom,” *The Incarnate Word*, 2 (2008), 3–39.
- “The Reach of Reason,” in *Ethics and Theological Disclosures: The Thought of Robert Sokolowski*, edited by James Hart and Guy Mansini, O.S.B. (Washington, D.C.: The Catholic University of America Press, 2003), 102–34.
- “Virtù,” *Nuova civiltà delle macchine* 20 (2002): 33–55.
- “The Descent of Science,” *Review of Metaphysics* 52 (1999): 826–56. Also in *Proceedings of the Varenna Conference on “The Origin of Intelligent Life in the Universe,”* edited by Elio Sindoni (Como, Italy: New Press, 1999), 329–54.
- “The Modern Quarrel of Faith and Reason,” *Fellowship of Catholic Scholars* 22/1 (1999): 12–15.
- “Introduction” to *Modern Enlightenment and the Rule of Reason* (Washington, D.C.: The Catholic University of America Press, 1998), 1–21.
- “Pascal on Certainty and Utility,” in *Modern Enlightenment and the Rule of Reason* (Washington, D.C.: The Catholic University Press, 1998), 92–123. An earlier version appeared under the same title in *Interpretation: a journal of political philosophy* 22 (1994): 247–69.
- “Keeping up Appearances: the Moral Philosophy of Robert Sokolowski,” in *The Truthful and the Good. Essays in Honor of Robert Sokolowski*, edited by John Drummond and James Hart (Dordrecht and Boston: Kluwer Academic Publishers, 1996), 121–44.
- “The Being of the Maybe: Husserl on Doubting,” *Man and World* 28 (1995): 261–81.
- “Some Preliminary Remarks on ‘Cognitive Interest’ in Husserlian Phenomenology,” *Husserl Studies* 11 (1994–1995): 135–52.
- “How Knowing the World Completes the World: A Note on Aquinas and Husserl,” *Proceedings of the American Catholic Philosophical Association* 57 (1993): 71–86.
- “Parts, Wholes, and the Forms of Life: Husserl and the New Biology,” in *Phenomenology of Natural Science*, edited by L. Hardy and L. Embree, 135–56 (Dordrecht and Boston: Kluwer Academic Publishers, 1992). Also in translation, “Parties, touts, et formes de la vie: Husserl et la nouvelle biologie,” *Recherches Husserlienne* 3 (1995): 23–49.
- “Desire, Recollection, and Speech: On Augustine’s *Confessions* I,1,” *Communio: International Catholic Review* 14 (1987): 146–57.

C. Reviews & Critical Notices

- Leo Strauss and the Theologico–Political Problem* by Heinrich Meier, translated by Marcus Brainard, *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews*, <http://ndpr.nd.edu/review.cfm?id=6903> (June 19, 2006).
- Michel de Montaigne, Accidental Philosopher* by Ann Hartle, *The Thomist*, 69 (April 2005): 317–22.

- “Amo Ergo Sum,” a review of *Prolegomena to Charity* by Jean–Luc Marion, *Crisis*, 20 (November 2002): 56–58.
- La sagesse du monde: Histoire de l'expérience humaine de l'univers* by Rémi Brague, *Review of Metaphysics* 55 (2001): 122–25.
- Nililism before Nietzsche* by Michael Allen Gillespie, *Review of Metaphysics* 54 (2000): 140–43.
- “The Novelty of the Old,” a review of *The End of the Modern World* by Romano Guardini, *The University Bookman* 40 (2000): 15–19.
- “Keeping Modern Man in Mind,” a review essay of *The City of Man* by Pierre Manent, *Telos* 116 (1999): 175–87.
- Self–Knowledge in the Age of Theory* by Ann Hartle, *Reason Papers* 24 (1999): 117–20.
- Encyclopedia of Phenomenology* edited by Lester Embree et al., *Review of Metaphysics* 52 (1999): 677–79.
- Nietzsche in Turin* by Lesley Chamberlain, *The World and I* 13 (May 1998): 267–70.
- Tocqueville and the Nature of Democracy* by Pierre Manent, *Review of Metaphysics* 51 (1998): 945–7.
- God Owes Us Nothing* by Leszek Kolakowski, *Review of Metaphysics* 50 (1997): 669–71.
- An Introduction to Husserlian Phenomenology* by Rudolf Bernet, Iso Kern, and Eduard Marbach, *Review of Metaphysics* 49 (1995): 123–25.
- Francis Bacon and the Project of Progress* by Robert K. Faulkner, *Review of Metaphysics* 49 (1995): 129–31.
- God Without Being: Hors Texte* by Jean Luc Marion, *Review of Metaphysics* 46 (1993): 627–29.
- A Path into Metaphysics: Phenomenological, Hermeneutical, and Dialogical Studies* by Robert Wood, *Review of Metaphysics* 46 (1992): 429–30.
- Philosophical Apprenticeships* by Hans–Georg Gadamer, *Review of Metaphysics* 40 (1987): 572–74.
- The Imperative of Responsibility: In Search of an Ethics for the Technological Age* by Hans Jonas, *Review of Metaphysics* 39 (1985): 362–64.
- Anselm and a New Generation* by G. R. Evans, *Review of Metaphysics* 36 (1982): 446–48.

LECTURES, CONFERENCE PAPERS & PRESENTATIONS

- Comments on Thomas Hibbs’ *Wagering on an Ironic God: Pascal on Faith and Philosophy*, American Catholic Philosophical Association Annual Meeting, Dallas, 18 November 2017.
- “Fostering Philosophical Questions in the Young,” Crossroads Cultural Center, New York City, April 7, 2017.
- “Von Hildebrand’s Struggle,” American Catholic Philosophical Association Annual Meeting, Boston, 10 October 2015.
- “The Place of Philosophy within the University,” University of Mary, Bismark, ND, 21 August, 2014.
- “Philosophy and Scholasticism,” American Catholic Philosophical Association Annual Meeting, Indianapolis, November 2, 2013.
- “Hume’s Curious Love of Truth,” St. Thomas University, Houston, February 11, 2011. Also in the School of Philosophy fall lecture series “The Issue of Truth: In Honor of Robert Sokolowski,” The Catholic University of America, September 4, 2009.
- “The Lord Chancellor’s Philosophy,” Thomas Aquinas College, Santa Paula, California, October 17, 2008.
- “Philosophy as a Discipline and the Discipline” of Faith,” in a conference on “Faith and the Disciplines,” St. Charles Borromeo Seminary, Wynnewood, PA, July 10–13, 2008.

- “Some Notes on Cartesian Freedom,” Fulton Sheen House of Formation, Chillum, Maryland. March 14, 2008.
- “Pope Benedict XVI as Educator,” Avalon School, Bethesda, Maryland, March 13, 2008.
- “Bacon’s Third Sailing: The ‘Pre–Socratic’ Origins of Modern Philosophy,” in the School of Philosophy fall lecture series “Early Greek Philosophy: Reason at the Beginning of Philosophy, The Catholic University of America, November 16, 2007.
- “Faith and Reason in Christianity and Islam: A Dialogue,” with Wa’il Farouk, George Washington University, November 20, 2006.
- “Christian Faith in Reason,” in the conference “Belief and Metaphysics,” Granada, Spain, September 16, 2006.
- “Descartes’ Feeble Spirits,” in the School of Philosophy fall lecture series “Weakness of Will,” The Catholic University of America, October 22, 2004.
- “Our Lives as Political and Ecclesial Beings,” in a panel discussion on “Our Lives as Political Beings,” The Catholic University of America, October 6, 2004.
- “The Writing of Thomas Prufer,” in the symposium “Commemorating Thomas Prufer,” School of Philosophy, The Catholic University of America, March 21, 2003.
- “The Good and the True in Early Modern Philosophy,” as part of “Natural Philosophy and Political Philosophy: A Panel in Honor of the Work of Richard Kennington,” American Political Science Association Convention, San Francisco, August 30, 2001.
- “The Range of Reason,” International Theological Institute, Gaming, Austria, April 8, 2001.
- “Virtù,” in a lecture series dedicated to “Le parole dell’etica,” Libera Università Maria SS. Assunta, Rome, Italy, March 8, 2001.
- “The Most Distinctive of Distinctions,” in a conference on “The Theology of Robert Sokolowski,” St. Meinrad’s Abbey, St. Meinrad, Indiana, April 6–9, 2000.
- “The Good and the True in Early Modern Philosophy,” in “Living Arguments: Richard Kennington and the History of Philosophy,” The Catholic University of America, March 24, 2000.
- “Remarks on Fides et Ratio,” St. Francis College, Brooklyn, New York, March 15, 1999.
- “John Paul II on Faith and Reason,” The Catholic University of America, November 1998.
- “Honoring Honor,” 1998 Induction Ceremony, Phi Eta Sigma, Freshman National Honor Society, The Catholic University of America Chapter, October 1998.
- “The Descent of Science,” Villa Monastero Conference on the Origin of Intelligent Life in the Universe, Varenna, Italy, October 1998.
- “Bacon’s Popular Mechanics,” American Political Science Association Convention, Boston, August, 1998.
- “Moral Appearances,” in a conference on “The Phenomenology of Robert Sokolowski,” The School of Philosophy, The Catholic University of America, November 1994.
- “Francis Bacon, the Father of Modernity?” American Political Science Association Convention, New York, September 1994.
- “How Knowing Completes the World,” American Catholic Philosophical Association Annual Meeting, St. Louis, March 1993.
- “Husserl on Taking an Interest,” Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy Convention, Boston, October 1992.
- “Pascal on Certainty and Utility,” in the School of Philosophy fall lecture series “The Enlightenment: Anglo–French and German,” The Catholic University of America, December 1991.

RECENT COURSES

Graduate: “Hume’s Religion”; “Descartes’ *Meditations*”; “Francis Bacon & the Mastery of Nature”;
“Hume’s *A Treatise of Human Nature*”

Undergraduate: “Human Action and Government”; “Political Philosophy”

DISSERTATIONS DIRECTED

Nicholas Kruckenber, “Nature and Man in the Works of Francis Bacon” (2020)

Aaron Maddeford, “Francis Bacon on the Active Life and the Contemplative Life” (2018)

Jonathan Krause, “Hume’s Political Theology” (2015)

Joseph Rice, “Karol Wojtyla on Acting Together with Others” (2007)

Peter Vedder, “Science and Theology in Descartes’ *Meditations*” (1999)

Sébastien Mongo-Behon, “The Existential Analysis of Evil and its Impact on Freedom and Hope in the
Philosophy of Gabriel Marcel” (1997)

FELLOWSHIPS & SCHOLARSHIPS

Research Fellowship, Earhart Foundation, 2000–2001

Doctoral Fellow, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, 1983-1986

Board of Trustees Graduate Scholarship, The Catholic University of America, 1979-1983

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS AND SERVICE

Series Editor, *Studies in Philosophy and the History of Philosophy*, The Catholic University of America Press,
2011-

Member, Board of Directors, Philosophy Education Society, 2008-

Member of the Executive Council, American Catholic Philosophical Association

American Catholic Philosophical Association