

Rose Novick

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RESEARCH AND TEACHING AREAS

Areas of specialization

Philosophy of biology, philosophy of science

Areas of competence

Classical Chinese philosophy, history of biology

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

University of Washington – Assistant Professor

September 2020 – present

Purdue University – Assistant Professor

August 2019 – May 2020

Dalhousie University – Postdoctoral fellow

September 2018 – July 2019

EDUCATION

University of Pittsburgh

August 2012 – September 2018

Ph.D. in History and Philosophy of Science

The College of Wooster

August 2008 – May 2012

B.A. in Philosophy and Biology

BOOK PUBLICATIONS

- 1) **Novick, Rose** (trans.). *forthcoming*. *Zhuangzi: The Inner Chapters*. Seattle: Sublunary Editions, Emyprean Series.
- 2) **Novick, Rose**. 2023. *Structure and Function*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
<https://doi.org/10.1017/9781009028745>

MAJOR ARTICLE PUBLICATIONS

- 1) Haueis, Philipp and **Rose Novick**. *forthcoming*. “Conceptual Patchworks and Conceptual Housekeeping.” In *Concepts, Induction, and the Growth of Scientific Knowledge*, edited by Corinne Bloch-Mullins and Theodore Arabatzis. Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press.
- 2) Kovaka, Karen and **Rose Novick**. *forthcoming*. “Relative Frequency Controversies and the Growth of Biological Knowledge.” *Philosophy, Theory, and Practice in Biology*.
- 3) **Novick, Rose**. 2023. “The Neutral Theory of Conceptual Complexity.” *Philosophy of Science*.
<https://doi.org/10.1017/psa.2023.25>
- 4) **Novick, Rose** and Philipp Haueis. 2023. “Patchworks and Operations.” *European Journal for the Philosophy of Science* 13:15. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s13194-023-00515-y>
- 5) **Novick, Aaron** and W. Ford Doolittle. 2021. “‘Species’ without Species.” *Studies in the History and Philosophy of Science Part A* 87:72-80. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.shpsa.2021.03.006>
- 6) **Novick, Aaron**, Adrian M. Currie, Eden W. McQueen, and Nathan L. Brouwer. 2020. “Kon-Tiki Experiments.” *Philosophy of Science* 87(2). <https://doi.org/10.1086/707553>

- 7) **Novick, Aaron** and Raphael Scholl. 2020. “Presume it Not: True Causes in the Search for the Basis of Heredity.” *British Journal for the Philosophy of Science* 71(1):59-86. <https://doi.org/10.1093/bjps/axy001> [received Editors’ Choice designation]
- 8) **Novick, Aaron** and W. Ford Doolittle. 2020. “Horizontal Persistence and the Complexity Hypothesis.” *Biology & Philosophy* 35:2. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10539-019-9727-6>
- 9) **Novick, Aaron**. 2019. “Cuvierian Functionalism.” *Philosophy, Theory, and Practice in Biology*. 11:5. <https://doi.org/10.3998/ptpbio.16039257.0011.005>
- 10) **Novick, Aaron**. 2019. “A Reappraisal of Charles Darwin’s Engagement with the Work of William Sharp Macleay.” *Journal of the History of Biology* 52(2):245-270. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10739-018-9541-z>
- 11) **Novick, Aaron**. 2018. “The Fine Structure of ‘Homology.’” *Biology and Philosophy* 33:6. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10539-018-9617-3>
- 12) **Novick, Aaron**. 2017. “Metaphysics and the *Vera Causa* Ideal: The Nun’s Priest’s Tale.” *Erkenntnis* 82(5):1161-1176. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10670-016-9863-1>
- 13) **Novick, Aaron**. 2016. “On the Origins of the Quinarian System of Classification.” *Journal of the History of Biology* 49(1):95-133. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10739-015-9419-2>

MINOR ARTICLE PUBLICATIONS (BOOK REVIEWS, EDITORIALS, SECONDARY AUTHOR)

- 1) **Novick, Rose**. 2023. Review of *Styles of Reasoning in the British Life Sciences: Shared Assumptions, 1820–1858*, by James Elwick. *Journal of the History of Biology*. 56:563-565. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10739-023-09738-4>
- 2) **Novick, Aaron**. 2021. Review of *Philosophy of Science for Biologists*. Edited by Kostas Kampourakis and Tobias Uller. *The Quarterly Review of Biology* 96 (3):207-08. <https://doi.org/10.1086/716111>
- 3) Wideman, Jeremy, **Aaron Novick**, Sergio A. Muñoz-Gómez, and W. Ford Doolittle. 2019. “Neutral Evolution of Cellular Phenotypes.” *Current Opinion in Genetics and Development* 59:87-94. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.gde.2019.09.004>
- 4) **Novick, Aaron**. 2020. Review of *Cuvier’s History of the Natural Sciences: Twenty Lessons from the First Half of the Eighteenth Century*. *Collection Archives*. Edited and annotated by Theodore W. Pietsch; Foreword by Pietro Corsi; translated by Fanja Andriamialisoa. *The Quarterly Review of Biology* 95 (2):131. <https://doi.org/10.1086/709095>
- 5) **Novick, Aaron** and W. Ford Doolittle. 2019. “How Microbes ‘Jeopardize’ the Modern Synthesis.” *PLoS Genetics* 15(5):e1008166. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pgen.1008166>
- 6) Lehtinen, Richard M., Travis L. Calkins, **Aaron M. Novick**, and Jessica L. McQuigg. 2016. “Re-assessing the Conservation Status of an Island Endemic Frog.” *Journal of Herpetology* 50(2):249-255. <https://doi.org/10.1670/14-161>

PRESENTATIONS

Conference presentations

- 1) “Your years are many, yet your hue is as a babe’s—how?: The trans *Zhuangzi*.” *Midwest Conference on Chinese Thought*. Indianapolis, 2024.04.12.
- 2) “Zhuang Zhou among the biologists.” *ISHPS SB*. Toronto, 2023.07.10.
- 3) “The Neutral Theory of Conceptual Complexity.” *Philosophy of Science Association*. Pittsburgh, 2022.11.10.
- 4) “‘Species’ without Species.” *Philosophy of Science Association*. Baltimore, MD, 2021.11.11.
- 5) [with Philipp Haueis] “Patchwork Concepts and Operationalism.” *European Philosophy of Science Association*. Turin, 2021.09.17.
- 6) “Reference and Ignorance.” *ISHPS SB*. Virtual, 2021.07.20.
- 7) “‘Sequence Homology’: A Case of Conceptual Deviance.” *Ancestry: Evidence, Inference, and Identity*, Pittsburgh

Center for Philosophy of Science. 2021.01.23.

- 8) “‘Species’ without Species.” *ISHPSB*. Oslo, 2019.07.11.
- 9) “Cuvierian Functionalism.” *Philosophy of Science Association*. Seattle, 2018.11.
- 10) “The Prodigal Genetics Returns.” *Society for the Philosophy of Science and Practice*. Ghent, 2018.06.
- 11) “The Geometry of Life.” *Models and Simulations 8*. Columbia, SC, 2018.03.16.
- 12) “A Reappraisal of Charles Darwin’s Engagement with the Work of William Sharp Macleay.” *History of Science Society*. Atlanta, 2016.11.06.
- 13) “Presume it Not: True Causes and Unconceived Alternatives in the Search for the Basis of Heredity.” *Society for the Philosophy of Science and Practice*, Glassboro, 2016.06.19.
- 14) “Metaphysics and the *Vera Causa* Ideal: The Nun’s Priest’s Tale.” *North Carolina Philosophical Society*. Boone, 2016.02.27.
- 15) [Co-author] “Presume it Not: True Causes and Unconceived Alternatives in the Search for the Basis of Heredity.” *The History of Science and Contemporary Scientific Realism*. Indianapolis, 2016.02.21.
- 16) “On the Origins of the Quinarian System of Classification.” *ISHPSB*. Montréal, 2015.07.07.

Invited presentations

- 1) [**Keynote**] “One Kind of Adaptationism”. *Evolution and Development: From Life to Mind* workshop, organized by the Sino-Australian Philosophy of Life Sciences Network. Beijing, 2024.08.
- 2) [**Colloquium**] “One Kind of Adaptationism”. Colloquium Talk to UC-Irvine LPS. 2024.02.16.
- 3) “Managing Conceptual Complexity in Science” (Panel with Ingo Brigandt and Philipp Haueis). Conceptual Engineering Network Lecture Series. Virtual, 2023.12.08.
- 4) “Speaking Is Not Puffing”. ConceptLab Hong Kong. Virtual, 2023.03.01.
- 5) “Structure and Function”. Conference Organized by W. Ford Doolittle. Halifax, 2022.08.12.
- 6) “Managing Conceptual Deviance”. Workshop on Scientific Concepts. Bielefeld, 2022.02.08.
- 7) [**Colloquium**] “Structure and Function”. U Idaho Philosophy. 2021.09.10.
- 8) [**Philosophy Honor Society Lecture**] “How Biologists Argue.” The College of Wooster. 2020.02.28.
- 9) “Horizontal Persistence and the Complexity Hypothesis.” History of Human Sciences Workshop, U Chicago. 2020.02.20.
- 10) “Cuvierian Functionalism.” University of Washington. 2020.02.14.
- 11) “Theory change in biology during the long 20th century.” *Science and Technology in the Long 20th century*. West Lafayette, IN, 2019.11.16.
- 12) “Horizontal Persistence and the Complexity Hypothesis.” Dalhousie U. 2019.05.17.
- 13) “Ontologically Cumulative Kuhnian Revolutions.” Dalhousie U. 2019.03.29.
- 14) “Cuvierian Functionalism.” Purdue U. 2019.01.16.
- 15) “Cuvierian Functionalism.” Dalhousie U. 2018.11.23.
- 16) “The Fine Structure of ‘Homology’.” Dalhousie U. 2018.07.16.
- 17) Commentary on Bloch-Mullins, “Soups, sparks, and contrast classes: Stability and dynamism in the concept ‘synapse’.” *Investigating Life: A Celebration of the Career of James G. Lennox*. Pittsburgh, 2018.04.21.
- 18) “Structuralism and Functionalism in Evolutionary Theory.” The College of Wooster, 2017.09.07.
- 19) “Structuralism and Functionalism in Evolutionary Theory.” U Pittsburgh Biological Sciences, 2017.09.06.
- 20) “How Not (and How) to Construct an Argument for Scientific Realism.” The College of Wooster, 2013.10.03.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- 1) PhilSci Archive editorial board, AY 23-25
- 2) Placement committee, University of Washington, AY 21-24
- 3) Graduate Admissions Committee, University of Washington, AY 20-21, 22-23
- 4) Unofficial advisor for an undergraduate honors thesis on a topic in philosophy of biology, University of Pittsburgh, AY 17-18
- 5) Graduate student representative to the faculty, HPS department, University of Pittsburgh, 2016
- 6) Committee to select speakers for the HPS annual lecture series, AY 15-16
- 7) Organizer of graduate student work-in-progress talks, HPS department, University of Pittsburgh, 2015

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

- 1) (Summer 2023) semi-public *Zhuangzi* reading group
- 2) (09/2020) Invited participant on [Ask a Philosopher](#) twitch stream
- 3) (09/2020) “Free and Easy Conversing.” Animated video ([link 1](#); [link 2](#))
- 4) (04/2020) “Free and Easy Conversing.” Co-authored with Liam Bright ([link](#))
- 5) (11/2019) Guest on the *Embrace the Void* podcast ([link](#))
- 6) (01/2018) “Zhengming.” Co-authored with Liam Bright ([link](#))

REVIEWING & PROGRAM COMMITTEES

Conference organizer.

Epistemology of Science (2019, 2024)

Conference program committee.

British Society for Philosophy of Science (2022-24)

APA Pacific (2024-26)

Journal referee.

Philosophy of Science

Biology & Philosophy

History and Philosophy of the Life Sciences

European Journal for Philosophy of Science

Philosophical Studies

Foundations of Science

Journal of Morphology

Theoria

British Journal for Philosophy of Science

Philosophy, Theory, and Practice in Biology

Erkenntnis

Synthese

Philosopher's Imprint

Interface Focus

BioScience