

**Jason Boaz Simus, Ph.D**  
 Email: [jbsimus@gmail.com](mailto:jbsimus@gmail.com).

**AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION:** Environmental philosophy, Aesthetics.

**AREAS OF COMPETENCE:** Ethics, Modern philosophy.

#### **EMPLOYMENT**

Adjunct Professor, Department of Literature and Languages, Texas A&M University-Commerce (Spring 2011-present).

Adjunct Professor, Department of Philosophy and Religion Studies, University of North Texas (Fall 2009-Fall 2010).

Reviewer, proofreader, editorial board member, *Environmental Ethics* (Spring 2009-present).

Teaching Fellow, Department of Philosophy and Religion Studies, University of North Texas (Spring 2004-2009).

#### **EDUCATION**

Ph.D., Philosophy, University of North Texas at Denton (2009).

Dissertation: "Disturbing Nature's Beauty: Environmental Aesthetics in a New Ecological Paradigm." J. Baird Callicott, advisor (defended April 2009).

M.A., Philosophy, University of Colorado at Boulder (2003).

Master's thesis: "Framing, Orientation, and Appropriate Aesthetic Appreciation of Natural Environments." John Andrew Fisher, advisor.

B.A., Philosophy (with minor in art history), Texas State University at San Marcos (2001).

#### **PUBLICATIONS**

*Disturbing Nature's Beauty: Environmental Aesthetics in a New Ecological Paradigm* (currently under book contract at SUNY Press).

"Metaphors and Metaphysics in Ecology," *Worldviews: Global Religions, Culture, and Ecology* 15, No. 2 (2011): 185-202.

"Aesthetic and Other Theoretical Virtues in Science," *American Society for Aesthetics Graduate E-journal* 1, No. 2 (Spring/Summer 2009).

"Environmental Art and Ecological Citizenship," *Environmental Ethics* 30, No. 1 (Spring 2008): 21-36.

"Aesthetic Implications of the New Paradigm in Ecology," *Journal of Aesthetic Education* 42, No. 1 (Spring 2008): 63-79.

"A Response to Emily Brady's 'Aesthetic Regard for Nature in Environmental and Land Art.'" *Ethics, Place, and Environment* vol. 10, No. 3 (October 2007): 301-305.

"Allison on Kant's Theory of Beauty as a Symbol of Morality," *Kinesis* vol.30 (Fall 2003): 62-79.

"Birth, Death, and the Meaning of Life," *Dialogue* (April 2001): 39-45.

### BOOK REVIEWS

Review of *Art in Public: Politics, Economics, and a Democratic Culture* by Lambert Zuidervaart, *Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism* 70, No. 4 (2012): 403-405.

Invited book review of *Public Art: Theory, Practice, and Populism* by Cher Krause Knight, *Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism* 67, No. 4 (2009): 433-35.

### COURSES TAUGHT

(Texas A&M University at Commerce)

Introduction to Philosophy (online, Fall 2011, Fall 2012, Spring 2013).

Aesthetics (online, Spring 2011, 2012, Fall 2012).

History of Philosophy I: Ancient to Modern (Spring 2013).

(University of North Texas)

Aesthetics (Spring 2010).

Introduction to Modern Philosophy (Spring 2010).

Introduction to Contemporary Environmental Issues (Fall 2008, Spring 2007, 2006).

Introduction to Contemporary Moral Issues (Spring 2005, 2004).

Introduction to Philosophy (Fall 2010, 2009, Spring 2009, Fall 2006, 2005, 2004).

Introduction to Logic (Fall 2007).

### PRESENTATIONS

"Save the Earth on Your Own Time: An Argument for Limited Advocacy in Environmental Ethics Teaching," *International Society for Environmental Ethics, Eastern Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association*, Washington, D.C. (December 27-30, 2011); *Old World and New World Perspectives on Environmental Philosophy*, Nijmegen, The Netherlands, June 14-17, 2011; *North Texas Philosophical Association Annual Meeting*, University of North Texas, Denton, TX (April 2011).

"Aesthetic and Other Theoretical Virtues in Science," *American Society for Aesthetics Pacific Division Meeting*, Asilomar, CA (March 2012); *North Texas Philosophical Association Annual Meeting*, University of North Texas, Denton, TX (April 2010).

"Metaphors and Metaphysics in Ecology," *6<sup>th</sup> Annual Joint Meeting of the International Association for Environmental Philosophy and the International Society for Environmental Ethics*, Allenspark, CO (June 16-19, 2009).

“Ecological Citizenship and Environmental Art,” *American Society for Aesthetics, Annual Meeting*, Northampton, Massachusetts (November 2008); *Thinking Through Nature: Philosophy for an Endangered World* conference, University of Oregon, Eugene, OR (June 2008); *North Texas Philosophical Association Annual Meeting*, University of North Texas, Denton, TX (April 2008).

“Why Environmental Art is Not an Aesthetic Affront to Nature.” *American Society for Aesthetics, Pacific Division Meeting*, Asilomar, CA (March 2007); *North Texas Philosophical Association Annual Meeting*, Denton, TX (April 2007).

“Aesthetic Implications of the New Paradigm in Ecology,” *2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Joint Meeting of the International Association for Environmental Philosophy and the International Society for Environmental Ethics*, Allenspark, CO (June 2005); *American Society for Aesthetics Annual Meeting*, Houston, TX (October 2004); *North Texas Philosophical Association Annual Meeting*, University of Dallas, Dallas, TX (April 2004).

“Aesthetic Qualities of Water,” *Joint Meeting of the International Association for Environmental Philosophy and the International Society for Environmental Ethics*, Allenspark, CO (June 2004).

“A Pragmatist Approach to Environmental Aesthetics,” *American Philosophical Association, Society of Student Philosophers’ Panel, Pacific Division Meeting*, San Francisco, CA (March 2003); *University of Colorado Philosophy Department Graduate Colloquium*, Boulder, CO (November 2002).

“Birth, Death, and the Meaning of Life,” *Southwest Texas State University Annual Philosophy Symposium*, San Marcos, TX (2001).

#### **INVITED PRESENTATIONS**

Comments on Chelsea Snelgrove, “A Dangerous Path to Nowhere: the Uses and Abuses of Ecological Utopias,” *International Society for Environmental Ethics, panel 2, Eastern Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association*, Atlanta, GA (December 2012).

Comments on Gao Shan, “Can the West Save the East?” *International Society for Environmental Ethics, panel 2, Pacific Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association*, San Diego, CA (April 2011).

Comments on J. Michael Scoville’s “Integrity as a Conservation Concept: RIP?” *International Society for Environmental Ethics, panel 1, Eastern Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association*, Boston, MA (December 2010).

“Ecological Citizenship and Environmental Art.” Invited keynote address, *12<sup>th</sup> Annual Philosophy Symposium*, Texas State University at San Marcos, TX (April, 2009).

Comments on Ned Hettinger's "Animal Beauty, Ethics, and Environmental Preservation," *4<sup>th</sup> Annual Joint Meeting of the International Association for Environmental Philosophy and the International Society for Environmental Ethics*, Allenspark, CO (June 2007).

Comments on Emily Brady's, "Humans and Art in the Land: Power, Conflict, and Harmony." *American Society for Aesthetics Annual Meeting*, Milwaukee, WI (October 2006).

Comments on Alison Hagerman's "Disinterestedness and Autonomy in the Appreciation of Natural Environments." *American Society for Aesthetics Pacific Division Meeting*, Asilomar, CA (March 2006).

#### **INVITED GUEST LECTURES**

"John Rawls' Difference Principle versus Robert Nozick's Entitlement Theory," Roysce City High School University Interscholastic League debate team, Roysce City, TX (February 2013).

"Environmental Art and Ecological Citizenship," Public Lecture Series, Botanical Research Institute of Texas (BRIT), Ft. Worth, TX (September 2011).

"Contemporary Environmental Aesthetics," Graduate Seminar in Aesthetics, University of North Texas (Fall 2007).

"Responding to Student Writing." University of North Texas Orientation for Incoming Teaching Assistants and Teaching Fellows (Fall 2007- Spring 2010).

#### **PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES AND SERVICE**

Invited panel session chair, *International Society for Environmental Ethics, Eastern Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association*, Atlanta, GA (December 2012).

Invited panel session chair, *International Society for Environmental Ethics, Eastern Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association*, Washington, D.C (December 2011).

Invited panel session chair, "Environmental Aesthetics." *American Society for Aesthetics Annual Meeting*, Tampa, FL (October 2011).

Reviewer, *Journal of Agricultural and Environmental Ethics* (Summer 2011 to present).

Reviewer, *The Brock Review* (Summer 2010 to present).

Reviewer, *Environment and Planning D: Society and Space* (November 2009 to present).

Invited panel session chair, *Art, Beauty, and Beyond* conference, The University of Texas, Austin, TX (February 26-28, 2010).

Reviewer, *American Society for Aesthetics Graduate E-journal* (Fall 2008 to present).

Invited panel session chair, *International Society for Environmental Ethics at the Eastern Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association*, New York, NY (December 2009).

Invited panel session chair, "Topics in Applied Ethics and Public Policy." *North Texas Philosophical Association Annual Meeting*, Denton, TX (April 2009).

Invited panel session chair, "The Aesthetic, The Ugly, and Junk." *American Society for Aesthetics Pacific Division Meeting*, Asilomar, CA (March 2008).

Invited panel session chair, "Ethics, Episteme, and Praxis." *North Texas Philosophical Association Annual Meeting*, Denton, TX (April 2008).

Paper referee, *North Texas Philosophical Association Annual Meeting*, Denton, TX (April 2007, April 2008).

Member of organizing committee of *WaterWays: A Biennial Conference on Water Issues*, University of North Texas (Spring 2005, Spring 2007).

Director, *Philosophy and Film Series*, University of North Texas (Fall 2004, Fall 2006, Spring 2007).

Member of Department Chair Search Committee, University of North Texas (Spring 2003).

#### **GRANTS AND AWARDS**

Travel grant, Center for Environmental Philosophy (June 2005, May 2006, 2008, October 2008, June 2010).

Inducted into Phi Kappa Phi Academic Honor Society (Fall 2007).

Richardson Environmental Action League Fellowship (Spring 2005).

Travel grant, American Society for Aesthetics (October 2004).

Academic achievement award, University of Colorado Philosophy Department (Spring 2001).

#### **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

Member of American Philosophical Association (2002-present).

Member of American Society for Aesthetics (2002-present).

Member of International Association for Environmental Philosophy (2007-present).

Member of International Society for Environmental Ethics (2006-present).

**GRADUATE COURSEWORK**

## University of Colorado at Boulder

Kant on Cognition and Volition (Robert Hanna)  
 Ethics (David Boonin)  
 Philosophy of Mind (Michael Peirce)  
 Art History-Visiting Scholars (Erica Doss)  
 Environmental Philosophy (Alan Carter)  
 Metaphysics (George Bealer)  
 Theories of Art History (Vernon Minor)  
 Aesthetics (John Fisher)  
 Independent Study on Kant's Critique of Judgment (Robert Hanna)  
 Master's Thesis (John Fisher, Alan Carter, Robert Hanna)

## University of Texas at Arlington

Philosophy of Science (Harry Reeder)  
 Philosophy of Mind (Denny Bradshaw)  
 Metaphysics (Denny Bradshaw)  
 Theory of Knowledge (Charles Nussbaum)

## University of North Texas

Philosophy of Ecology (Baird Callicott)  
 Comparative Environmental Ethics (George James)  
 Philosophy and Environmental Literature (David Taylor)  
 Philosophy of Natural Science (Pete Gunter)  
 Environmental Ethics (2 semesters w/Gene Hargrove)  
 Water in Cultural and Political Contexts (Irene Klaver)  
 Scholarly Writing (Jacquiline Vanhoutte)  
 Topics in Ancient Philosophy (Robert Frodeman)  
 Philosophy of Technology (David Kaplan)  
 Logic and Metamathematics (Pete Gunter)  
 Topics in Modern Philosophy (Martin Yaffe)  
 Environmental Citizenship (Gene Hargrove)  
 Doctoral Dissertation (Baird Callicott, Gene Hargrove, Charles Nussbaum)

**COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATIONS**

History of Modern Philosophy (Martin Yaffe)  
 History of Late Modern Philosophy (Denny Bradshaw)  
 Ethics, Environmental Ethics (Gene Hargrove)  
 Aesthetics, Environmental Aesthetics (Baird Callicott)

**REFERENCES**

J. Baird Callicott: [callicott@unt.edu](mailto:callicott@unt.edu).

Eugene Hargrove:

[Hargrove@unt.edu](mailto:Hargrove@unt.edu).

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Tel. 817-272-2764

Allen Carlson:

[allen.carlson@ualberta.ca](mailto:allen.carlson@ualberta.ca).

Department of Philosophy

University of Alberta

Edmonton, Canada T6G3E5

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Emily Brady: [emily.brady@ed.ac.uk](mailto:emily.brady@ed.ac.uk).

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