

JOSEPH FRANCIS LAPORTE's Condensed CV (November 2009)

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Address

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EDUCATION

Ph.D. in philosophy, University of Massachusetts at Amherst: May, 1998.

M.A. in philosophy, University College London: 1993.

B.A., summa cum laude, in philosophy, Franciscan University of Steubenville, Ohio: 1991.

TEACHING POSITIONS

7/2004–Present: Associate Professor: Hope College, Holland MI.

7/1998–6/2004 Assistant Professor: Hope College.

9/1994-1/1997: Instructor and teaching assistant: University of Massachusetts/Amherst

AREAS OF RESEARCH

My primary research areas are in the philosophy of language, metaphysics, philosophy of biology, philosophy of science. I also do some work in the philosophy of religion and epistemology. Recently I have been working on the topic of rigid designators for properties and theoretical identities, especially psychophysical identities.

ARTICLES

(forthcoming) “On Systematists’ Single Objective Tree of Ancestors and Descendants,”
Biological Theory: Integrating Development, Evolution, and Cognition.

This paper came out of a talk in March of 2008, where I spoke at the Edges & Boundaries of Biological Objects Workshop, at the University of Utah

(see <http://www.phylosophy.org/eb>).

(forthcoming, 2010) “Theoretical Identity Statements, their Truth, and their Discovery,”
in H. Beebe & N. Sabbarton-Leary (ed), *The Semantics and Metaphysics of Natural Kinds*, New York: Routledge.

This paper came out of a talk in October of 2007, where I spoke at a small workshop in Turku, Finland on natural kinds and also at a conference in Birmingham, UK. The Birmingham event was *Nature and its Classification: a Metaphysics of Science Conference*, which opened up with a symposium on my book *Natural Kinds and Conceptual Change*

(see <http://www.bristol.ac.uk/metaphysicsofscience/programme.html>).

- (2009) "On Two Reasons for Denying that Bodies Can Outlast Life," *Mind* 118, 795-801.
- (2007) "In Defense of *Species*," *Studies in History and Philosophy of Biological and Biomedical Sciences* 38, 255-69.
- (2006) "Rigid Designators," *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*.
<http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/rigid-designators/index.html>
- (2006) "Two-Dimensionalism Against Materialism," supplementary document for "Rigid Designators," *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*.
<http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/rigid-designators/twodim.html>
- (2006) "Species as Relations: Examining a New Proposal," *Biology and Philosophy*. 21, pp. 381-93.
- (2006) "Rigid Designators for Properties," *Philosophical Studies* 130, pp. 321-36.
- (2005) "Is There a Single Objective, Evolutionary Tree of Life?," *The Journal of Philosophy* 102, pp. 357-74.
- (2003) "Does a Type Specimen Necessarily or Contingently Belong to Its Species?," *Biology and Philosophy* 18: 583-588.
- (2002) "Must Signals Handicap?," *The Monist* 85: 86-104.
- (2001) "Selection for Handicaps," *Biology and Philosophy* 16: 239-249.
- (2000) "Rigidity and Kind," *Philosophical Studies*, 97: 293-316.
- (1998) "Living Water," *Mind*, 107: 451-455.
- (1997) "Essential Membership," *Philosophy of Science*, 64: 96-112.
- (1996) "Chemical Kind Term Reference and the Discovery of Essence," *NOÛS*, 30: 112-132.
- (1996) "Locke's Semantics and the New Theory of Reference to Natural Kinds," *Locke Newsletter*, 27: 41-64.
- (1995) "In Search of Pigeonholes," *The Philosophical Quarterly*, 45: 499-505.

BOOK

- (2004 February) *Natural Kinds and Conceptual Change*. New York: Cambridge UP.
 Table of contents and Introduction are available online:
<http://assets.cambridge.org/052182/5997/sample/0521825997ws.pdf>.

PUBLISHED RESPONSES TO MY WORK

Natural Kinds and Conceptual Change has been reviewed by the following:

C. J. Bolton in *Mind* 116, 2007, pp. 184-7.

G. McOuat, in *Isis* 97, 2006, p. 594.

D. Braddon-Mitchell in *Biology and Philosophy* 20, 2006, pp. 859-68.

Jochen Faseler in *Review of Metaphysics* 59, 2005, pp. 438-40.

Rachel Cooper in *History and Philosophy of the Life Sciences* 27, 2005, p. 543.

Muhammad Ali Khalidi in *Philosophy of Science* 72, 2005, p. 519-23

Thomas Reydon in the *Philosophical Quarterly* 55, 2005, pp. 672-4;

R. A. Richards in *International Philosophical Quarterly* 45, 2005, pp. 412-413

Andrew Woodfield in *Philosophical Books* 3, 2005, pp. 272-3.

John Dupré in *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews*, 2004.06.01: see

<http://ndpr.nd.edu/review.cfm?id=1439>

Neil Levy in *Metapsychology Online Reviews*, 2004, 8, 8: see

<http://mentahelp.net/books/books.php?type=de&id=2069>

Rob Wilson in *Philosophy in Review* 24, 2004, pp. 423-6.

Robin Hendry in *Philosophical Writings* 27, 2004, pp. 71-4;

Other high-quality discussions of my work include:

(forthcoming, 2010) H. Beebe & N. Sabbarton-Leary (ed), *The Semantics and Metaphysics of Natural Kinds*, New York: Routledge. (selections)

Bird, Alexander (forthcoming) "A Posteriori Knowledge of Natural Kind Essences: A Defence," *Philosophical Topics*.

Devitt, Michael (2005) "Rigid Application," *Philosophical Studies* 125: 139-65.

Hacking, Ian (2007) "The contingencies of ambiguity," *Analysis* 67, pp. 269-77.

Hendry, Robin Findlay. 2006. "Elements, Compounds, and Other Chemical Kinds." *Philosophy of Science* 73, pp. 864-875.

Oderberg, David (forthcoming) *Real Essentialism*. Routledge.

Okasha S. (2002) "Darwinian Metaphysics: Species and the Question of Essentialism," *Synthese*, 131, pp. 191-213.

Schwartz, Stephen P. (2002) "Kinds, General Terms, and Rigidity: A Reply to LaPorte," *Philosophical Studies* 109, 265-77.

Segal, Gabriel (2000) *A Slim Book About Narrow Content*. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press.