We use cookies to ensure that we deliver the best user experience of our website. If you would like to, you can change your cookie settings at any time. Continue

Dr. Alastair Wilson B.A., B.Phil, D.Phil (Oxon)

Birmingham Fellow

Department of Philosophy (/schools/ptr/departments/philosophy/index.aspx)

Contact details

Telephone +44 (0) 121 41 58662 (tel:+44 121 41 58662)

Email a.j.wilson@bham.ac.uk (mailto:a.j.wilson@bham.ac.uk)

ERI Building, University of Birmingham
Edgbaston
Birmingham
B15 2TT

About

I'm a Birmingham Fellow in Philosophy, focusing on research in metaphysics and philosophy of physics. I also have research interests in epistemology and philosophy of science. My personal webpage is **here (http://alastairwilson.org/)** .

Qualifications

B.A. in Physics & Philosophy (Oxford, 2005)
B.Phil in Philosophy (Oxford, 2007)
D.Phil in Philosophy (Oxford, 2011)

Biography

After completing undergraduate and graduate studies at various Oxford colleges, I spent a year and a half in Australia as a post-doc at Monash University, before joining Birmingham in 2012. My doctoral thesis was on the metaphysics of Everettian (many-worlds) quantum mechanics. I have also worked on laws of nature, chance, properties, causation, counterfactuals, and the epistemology of disagreement and of self-locating beliefs. My current research project is on fundamentality in physics and metaphysics. I am also editing a collection of papers on chance and time which will appear with OUP in September 2014, and working on a book loosely based on my D.Phil. thesis. I am Philpapers editor for the category 'Interpretation of Quantum Mechanics'.

Teaching

I have taught metaphysics, epistemology, philosophy of language, philosophy of science, Kant, and philosophy of mind. I'm currently developing courses in metaphysics and early modern philosophy.

Postgraduate supervision

I'm happy to supervise or co-supervise graduates in most areas of metaphysics, epistemology, philosophy of science and philosophy of physics.

Research

- Fundamentality
- Everettian Quantum Mechanics
- Modality
- Chance
- Causation
- Dispositions
- Counterfactuals
- Disagreement
- Self-locating belief
- Space & time

A video of a presentation entitled 'Quantum Mechanics and the Metaphysics of Many Worlds' (http://youtu.be/Ae8PMKocgNI) . This was recorded at the 2012 PhysPhil conference at the University of St Andrews.

A podcast of talk entitled 'Quidditism and Modal Methodology' (http://www.power-structuralism.ox.ac.uk/podcasts/audio/mt2011/alastair_wilson_quidditism_and_modal_methodology) given at the Power Structuralism Research Seminar in Oxford on January 16th 2013.

Publications

- *Chance and Temporal Asymmetry*. An edited volume of articles, in production with Oxford University Press, expected September 2014.
- **Chance and Context (http://alastairwilson.org/files/ccweb.pdf)** . With Toby Handfield. Forthcoming in *Chance and Temporal Asymmetry*.
- **Bradley on Chance, Admissibility, and the Mind of God (http://alastairwilson.org/files/rbweb.pdf)** . Discussion of Darren Bradley's **reply (https://docs.google.com/viewer?a=v&pid=sites&srcid=ZGVmYXVsdGRvbWFpbnxkYXJyZW5icmFkbGV5cGhpbG9zb3BoeXxneDo0YzY1NjBmM2VmYjlhMTA4)** to my

"Everettian Confirmation and Sleeping Beauty".

- **Everettian Confirmation and Sleeping Beauty (http://alastairwilson.org/files/ecsbweb.pdf)**. Forthcoming in *British Journal for Philosophy of Science*.
- **"Quitting Certainties: A Bayesian Framework Modeling Degrees of Belief" (http://bjps.oxfordjournals.org/cgi/reprint/axt056?ijkey=kqywNo63qogSlVt&keytype=ref)** (Review), forthcoming in ***British Journal for Philosophy of Science (http://bjps.oxfordjournals.org/cgi/reprint/axt056?ijkey=kqywNo63qogSlVt&keytype=ref)***.
- **"Metaphysics and Science" (http://ndpr.nd.edu/news/46198-metaphysics-and-science/)** (Review), ***Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews (http://ndpr.nd.edu/news/46198-metaphysics-and-science/)***.
- **Objective Probability in Everettian Quantum Mechanics (http://alastairwilson.org/files/opieqmweb.pdf)**. *British Journal for Philosophy of Science* 64(4):709-737, 2013.
- **Schaffer on Laws of Nature (http://alastairwilson.org/files/slnweb.pdf)**. *Philosophical Studies* 164(3):653-657, 2013.
- **The Emergent Multiverse: Quantum Theory according to the Everett Interpretation (http://alastairwilson.org/files/wrweb.pdf)**. (Review) *Metascience* 22(3):583-586, 2013.
- **Everettian Quantum Mechanics Without Branching Time (http://www.springerlink.com/content/g7614wx823h645w3/)** *Synthese* 188(1):67-84, 2012.
- **The Human Story Behind Everettian Quantum Mechanics. (http://www.springerlink.com/content/v45428500473505q/)** (Review) *Metascience* 21(1):143-146, 2012.
- **Modality: Metaphysics, Logic and Epistemology (http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/00048402.2011.592541)**. (Review) *Australasian Journal of Philosophy* 89 (4): 755 - 756, 2011.
- **Macroscopic Ontology in Everettian Quantum Mechanics (http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/j.1467-9213.2010.675.x/abstract)**. *Philosophical Quarterly* 61 (243): 363-382, 2011.
- **Disagreement, Equal Weight and Commutativity (http://www.springerlink.com/content/586830751765pgx4/fulltext.pdf)**. *Philosophical Studies* 149 (3), 2010.
- **Disposition-Manifestations and Reference-Frames (http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/j.1746-8361.2009.01206.x/abstract)**. *Dialectica* 63 (4): 591-601, 2009.

© University of Birmingham 2014