

**Marina Berzins McCoy**  
**Fitzgibbons Chair of Philosophy**  
*Curriculum vitae*

Philosophy Department  
140 Commonwealth Avenue  
Boston College  
Chestnut Hill, MA 02167

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**Areas of Specialization:** Ancient Philosophy

**Areas of Competence:** History of Philosophy; Ethics; Feminism.

**Doctoral thesis** “Reason, Virtue, and Moral Education: A Study of Plato’s *Protagoras*.”

*Director:* Charles L. Griswold. *Readers:* C. Allen Speight, David Roochnik.

**Languages** Ancient Greek, French (reading).

**Education** Ph.D., January 1997; M.A., January 1994, Department of Philosophy, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Boston University.

B.A., June 1990, with College Honors, Major in Psychology, Earlham College, Richmond, Indiana.

**Fellowships  
And  
Awards** Research Incentives Grant recipient, Boston College, College of Arts and Sciences, 2005-2006.

National Endowment for the Humanities/ Core Curriculum Fellowship, Core Curriculum Program, College of Arts and Sciences, Boston University, 1996-1998.

Teaching Fellowships, Graduate Scholarships, Department of Philosophy, Boston University, 1991-1996.

Bertocci Dissertation Fellowship, Department of Philosophy, Boston University, 1994-95.

Teaching Fellow Prize, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Boston University, 1993-1994.

Presidential University Fellowship, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Boston University, 1990-91.

*Phi Beta Kappa*, Earlham College, 1990.

Departmental Honors, Honors Thesis, Psychology, Earlham College, 1990.

**Publications**

Book: *Plato on the Rhetoric of Philosophers and Sophists*, Cambridge University Press, 2008.

“Socrates and the Overturning of Belief in the *Gorgias*,” accepted for a volume entitled *From the Rim of the Pit*, expected publication in 2009.

"Freedom and Feminism in the thought of John Paul II," accepted for a collection entitled *Pope John Paul II and Philosophy: Ethics, Society, and Culture* (publisher TBA).

"Love and Platonic Transcendence in the Music of U2" in *U2 and Philosophy*, ed. Mark A. Wrathall (Open Court, June 2006).

“Sophistry and Philosophy in Plato’s *Republic*,” *Polis* volume 22(2), 2005.

"Three Questions for Feminists on Work-Family Issues" *Journal of the Interdisciplinary Crossroads*, volume 2 (2) (August 2005).

“Reason and Dialectic in the Argument against Protagoras in the *Theaetetus*,” *International Philosophical Quarterly*, volume 45 (1) (March 2005), 21-39.

“Philosophy, Elenchus, and Charmides’s Definitions of *Sophrosune*” *Arethusa* 38 (2005), 133-159.

Review of Scott Schreiber, *Aristotle on False Reasoning: Language and the World in the Sophistical Refutations* (Albany: SUNY Press, 2003), *Philosophy and Rhetoric* 38(1), 2005, 92-95.

“Socrates on Simonides: The Use of Poetry in Socratic and Platonic Rhetoric.” *Philosophy and Rhetoric* vol. 32 (4), 1999, 349-367.

“Protagoras on Human Nature, Wisdom, and the Good: The Great Speech and the Hedonism of Plato’s *Protagoras*.” *Ancient Philosophy* vol. 18, 1998, 21-39.

**In Progress**

"Alcidamas, Isocrates, and Plato on speech, writing, and philosophical rhetoric" submitted to *Ancient Philosophy*

"Love, fidelity, and rhetoric: Odysseus’ presentation of the female shades in Hades"

“Vulnerability and the Myth of Judgment in Plato’s *Gorgias*”

Book review of *Trials of Reason* (Wolfsdorf) for *International Journal for the Classical Tradition*.

I am beginning a new book on the topic of vulnerability in Greek philosophy

**Presentations**

Book panel on my book, *Plato and the Rhetoric of Sophists and Philosophers*, Northeastern Political Science Association annual meeting, scheduled for November 2008.

“Vulnerability and the Myth of Judgment in Plato’s *Gorgias*” submitted for presentation at the Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy, Fordham University, scheduled for October 2008.

“Plato’s *Republic* and the Quest of Philosophy,” Perspectives Program plenary lecture, Boston College, scheduled for September 2008.

"Care, Vulnerability, and Community," Fitzgibbons Inaugural Lecture, Boston College, March 2008.

Invited discussant, "Problems in Plato's *Republic*," Northeastern Political Science Association meeting, Boston, MA, November 2006.

"Alcidamas, Isocrates, and Plato on speech, writing, and philosophy," Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy, NYC, October 2006.

Invited speaker, "Platonic and Socratic Rhetoric in the *Apology*," University of Arizona Colloquium in Ancient Philosophy, Tucson, AZ, February 2006.

Invited speaker, "Freedom and Feminism in the thought of John Paul II," Personalist feminism panel, "Truth, Life, and Solidarity: Philosophical Perspectives on the Thought of John Paul the Great" conference, Church in the 21st Century, Boston College, February 2006.

Invited speaker, "The Most Important Passage in Alcidamas," American Society for the History of Rhetoric, National Communications Association Conference, Boston, November 2005.

"Plato's use of the forensic genre in the *Apology*," Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy Annual Meeting, Fordham University, New York City, October 2005.

"Plato's use of the forensic genre in the *Apology*," International Society for the History of Rhetoric, 15th Biennial International Congress, University of Southern California in Los Angeles, July 2005.

"Performative Aspects of Socratic questioning," American Philosophical Association Annual Meeting, Pacific Division, San Francisco, April 2005.

"Rhetoric and Audience in Plato's *Protagoras* and *Gorgias*," Society for the Contemporary Assessment of Platonism, San Francisco, April 2005.

"Performative Aspects of Socratic questioning," Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy Annual Meeting, Fordham University, New York City, October 2004.

"Re-presenting Plato: Platonic argument and neosophistic criticism," American Society for the History of Rhetoric interest group at the Eastern Communication Association Conference, April 2004, Boston, MA.

"Questioning rhetoric and philosophy in the *Gorgias*," Ancient Philosophy Society annual meeting, Pennsylvania State University, April 2004.

Invited commentator on Ellen Wagner's "Compulsion Again in the *Republic*," 2004 American Philosophical Association meeting, Pacific Division, March 2004.

Invited lecturer, University of North Dakota Philosophy Colloquium, "Questioning Rhetoric and Philosophy in Plato's *Gorgias*," January 2004.

Invited lecturer, Hartwick College Philosophy Lecture Series, "Sophistry and Philosophy in the *Republic*," Hartwick College, November 2003.

Invited lecturer, "Three Definitions of Justice in the *Republic* Book I," Perspectives Plenary Lectures, Boston College, September 2003.

"The Sophist and Knowledge in Plato's *Republic*," Conference on Value Inquiry, University of North Dakota, April 2003.

Invited lecturer, Core Curriculum plenary lecture, "Thrasymachus: How not to be a philosopher," November 2002, Boston University.

Invited speaker, “Was Plato Right about the Sophists?,” Perspectives Faculty Workshops. Boston College, May 2001.

“Socratic *Paideia*, Protagoras, and Theaetetus: Socrates’ Method of Argument in the *Theaetetus*,” Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy conference, Binghamton, NY, October 1998.

“Dialectic, Definition, and the Self: Definitions of *Sophrosune* in the *Charmides*.” Twentieth World Congress of Philosophy, Boston, August 1998.

Invited commentator on Rachana Kamtekar’s “Imperfect Virtue,” University of Arizona Colloquium in Ancient Philosophy, Tucson, AZ, February 1998.

“Naturalism in Ethics and Plato’s *Protagoras*.” Global and Multicultural Dimensions of Ancient and Medieval Philosophy, Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy conference, Binghamton, NY, October 1997.

“Educating the Educator.” Association for Core Texts and Courses, 3rd annual conference, Philadelphia, PA, April 1997.

## Teaching

Assistant Professor of Philosophy (tenure track), Philosophy Department, Boston College, fall 2003-present. (*Plato and the Sophists; Introduction to Feminist Philosophies; Rhetoric: Truth, Beauty, and Power; Perspectives on Western Civilization; Plato’s Republic seminar; Love and Friendship in the Ancient World*) I teach from introductory core to upper-class electives to graduate seminars.

Adjunct Assistant Professor (full-time position), Philosophy Department, Boston College, fall 1998-spring 2003. (*Philosophy of the Person I and II, Perspectives on Western Civilization, including honors sections*)

NEH Fellow/ Lecturer, Core Curriculum, College of Arts and Sciences, Boston University, fall 1996- spring 1998. (*The Ancient World, Ancient World Honors; The Way*)

Lecturer, Department of Philosophy, Summer Term, College of Arts and Sciences, Boston University, Summers 1992, 1993, 1995, 1998. (*Introduction to Ancient Philosophy; Introduction to Philosophy, Medical Ethics*)

Educational Consultant and Teaching Fellow, Boston University Academy, Boston, MA. Designed and taught new philosophy curriculum, 1995-96.

Lecturer, Humanities Department, Emerson College, Boston, MA, Spring 1994. (*History of Ethics*)

Lecturer, Freshman-Sophomore English Program, College of Arts and Sciences, Boston University, Fall 1993. (*Freshman Composition*)

Teaching Fellow Assistantships, Department of Philosophy, College of Arts and Sciences, Boston University, 1991-93. (Assisted in *Logic*, *Existentialism*, *Medical Ethics*, *Philosophical Inquiry*.)

**Professional  
Service**

Director of Undergraduate Studies, Philosophy Department, 2008-2009.

Referee for *Proceedings of the Boston Area Colloquium in Ancient Philosophy*, 2005-present.

Manuscript reviewer for Oxford University Press, fall 2005.

Member, Church in the 21st century intellectual tradition committee, Boston College.

Invited external reviewer, Master's thesis by Andrew Shortridge, on the law-nature distinction in the sophists, Monash University, Australia, 2007.

Prison volunteer, Norfolk Correctional Facility, June 2006-present. I teach and discuss philosophy and theology with inmates in the Dominican Laity group within the prison, one or two times per month.

In 2007, I designed the Philosophy Department color brochure for undergraduate majors along with John McCoy.

Referee for *Ancient Philosophy*, 2003, 2005.

Referee for *Journal for Philosophical Research*, 2006.

Referee for *Theoria*, 2005.

Assisting to the chairman with departmental publicity both within the university and to the larger academic community, fall 2004-present.

AHANA mentor, fall 2006-present.

Intersections mentor, fall 2006.

Kairos Retreat adult team leader, K59, spring 2007.

Busy Student Retreats spiritual companion, 2006-08.

Phi Beta Kappa nominations departmental contact, 2007-present.

Halftime Retreat/ Intersections faculty panel participant (“Sweep”), fall and winter 2006-07.

Faculty advisor, Scholar of the College Project, 2005-2006.

Confirmation/ CCD teacher for 9<sup>th</sup> graders at Holy Name Parish, West Roxbury, 2006-2007 and upcoming for 2008-2009.

Feminism panel, “What is Feminism?” UGBC, fall 2006.

Guest speaker, BC Pro-Life club, fall 2006.

Faculty leader of a student reading group on *Theology of the Body*, spring 2006.

Guest speaker, "What is Philosophy?" *Search for Meaning* television series, Newton Public Television, August 2005.

Departmental Representative, Boston College Admissions spring admitted students presentations, 2004-2007.

Undergraduate Committee, Philosophy Department, Boston College, 2004-present.

Women's Studies Advisory Board, Boston College, 2003-2005.

Fullbright interviewer (Boston College internal panels), 2004- 2005.

Participant in Faculty Workshop Program, Instructional Technologies to develop Perspectives I webct instructional site, summer 2004-summer 2005.

Second reader, doctoral dissertation on the *Theateteus* (Hussain Esmail), Boston College, 2003-2005.

Comprehensive exams committees for MA candidates, 2004-present.

Discussion facilitator, Women's Resource Center meeting, April, 2004.

"Bring Back the Date," Panel speaker on student dating and relationships, St. Thomas More Society, April 2004 and 2005.

Session Chair, Society for the Contemporary Assessment of Platonism, American Philosophical Association, Pacific Division, March 2004.

Speaker, "On Envy," Chi Alpha student group, March 10, 2004.

Undergraduate program self-study committee, Boston College philosophy department, 2003-2004.

Graduate student job search panel, Boston College philosophy department, fall 2003.

Session Chair, "Plato and Aristotle" at Conference for Value Inquiry, University of North Dakota, April 2003.

Referee for *Dialogue*, 2001.

Referee for *Reveries*, 2000-2001 (for undergraduates)

Chair, "Socratic Paideia," SAGP session, Twentieth World Congress of Philosophy, August 1998.

Paper review committee, American Organizing Committee, Twentieth World Congress of Philosophy, fall 1997.

**Professional  
Organizations**

American Philosophical Association  
Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy  
Ancient Philosophy Society

**References**

Patrick Byrne, Chair, Philosophy, Department, Boston College, (617) 552-3856, byrne@bc.edu.

Brian Braman, Chair of Perspectives Program, Boston College, (617) 552-3855, bramanb@bc.edu.

Charles L. Griswold, Jr., Chair, Dept. of Philosophy, Boston University, (617) 353-2570, griswold@bu.edu.

David Roochnik, Associate Professor, Dept. of Philosophy, Boston University. (617) 353-4579, roochnik@bu.edu.