

Karen L. Frost-Arnold

Department of Philosophy
Hobart & William Smith Colleges
Geneva, NY 14456

EDUCATION

Department of Philosophy, University of Pittsburgh, Ph.D., 2008
Wellesley College, B.A. with Honors in Philosophy and Biology, 1999

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Philosophy of the Internet, Trust, Social Epistemology, Philosophy of Science, Ethics,
and Feminist Philosophy

POSITIONS HELD

2023-present: Professor, Hobart & William Smith Colleges
2015-2023: Associate Professor, Hobart & William Smith Colleges
June 2022-May 2025 Visiting Associate Professor, African Centre for Epistemology and
Philosophy of Science, University of Johannesburg
Spring 2017: Visiting Scholar, Gender, Sexuality, & Women's Studies Program,
University of Pittsburgh
2009-2015: Assistant Professor, Hobart & William Smith Colleges
2007-2009: Part-Time Instructor, University of Nevada, Las Vegas

BOOKS

Who Should We Be Online? A Social Epistemology for the Internet (2023). New York:
Oxford University Press.

ARTICLES AND CHAPTERS

“Beyond Corporate Social Media Platforms: The Epistemic Promises and Perils of
Alternative Social Media” (2024). *Topoi* 43(5): 1557-68

“Précis of *Who Should We Be Online? A Social Epistemology for the Internet*” (2024).
Daimon Revista Internacional de Filosofia 93:155-6.

“Response to Comments” (2024). *Daimon Revista Internacional de Filosofia* 93:189-96.

“The Epistemic Dangers of Context Collapse Online” (2021). In *Applied Epistemology*,
(ed.) J. Lackey. New York: Oxford University Press.

“Trust and Epistemic Responsibility” (2020). In *The Routledge Handbook of Trust*, (ed.)
J. Simon. New York: Routledge.

“Wikipedia” (2018). In *The Routledge Handbook of Applied Epistemology*, (eds.) D.
Coady & J. Chase. New York: Routledge.

ARTICLES AND CHAPTERS (CONT.)

“Social Media, Trust, and the Epistemology of Prejudice” (2016). *Social Epistemology* 30(5-6): 513-531. (DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/02691728.2016.1213326>).

“Epistemologies of Ignorance as Foundation for Service-Learning” (2015). *Service-Learning and Civic Engagement: A Sourcebook*, (eds.) B. Delano-Oriaran, M. Penick-Parks, & S. Fondrie. Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE Publications.

“Imposters, Tricksters, & Trustworthiness as an Epistemic Virtue” (2014). *Hypatia* 29(4): 790-807. (DOI: <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/hypa.12107/abstract>).

“Trustworthiness and Truth: The Epistemic Pitfalls of Internet Accountability” (2014). *Episteme* 11(1):63-81. (DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1017/epi.2013.43>).

“The Cognitive Attitude of Rational Trust” (2014). *Synthese* 191(9):1957-1974. (DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11229-012-0151-6>).

“Moral Trust and Scientific Collaboration” (2013). *Studies in History and Philosophy of Science Part A*, 44 (3):301-310. (DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.shpsa.2013.04.002>).

PODCASTS & MEDIA

Who Should We Be Online? A Social Epistemology for the Internet, New Books in Philosophy podcast, <https://newbooksnetwork.com/who-should-we-be-online>.

Interviewed for: McMurray, Calli. “A Scientific Fraud. An Investigation. A Lab in Recovery.” *The Transmitter: Neuroscience News and Perspectives*, October 4, 2024. <https://www.thetransmitter.org/science-and-society/a-scientific-fraud-an-investigation-a-lab-in-recovery/>.

BOOK REVIEWS

“Willful Ignorance” (2016). *Metascience* 25(2):323-326 (DOI: 10.1007/s11016-016-0068-7).

ADVISORY BOARDS

Advisory Board for Oxford University Press Intersections *Social Media in Society and Culture* <https://academic.oup.com/intersections/pages/social-media>.

PRESENTATIONS

“Pay Attention to This! Epistemic Responsibility & Social Media Algorithms”

- Invited talk at University Carlos III, Madrid, January 2024.
- Invited talk at Agency and Knowledge in the Digital World workshop, University of Seville, January 2024.
- Invited talk at African Centre for Epistemology and Philosophy of Science, University of Johannesburg, October 2024. Presented under title “Attention, Algorithms, and Political Agency.”

PRESENTATIONS (CONT.)

“Platform Problems: How Social Media Companies Obstruct and Exploit Movements for Racial Justice”

-Invited virtual talk at Social Media, Race, and Community Knowledge Practices Conference at The University of Oklahoma, October 2023.

“Trust, Justice, and Scale: Social Epistemology of Federated Social Media”

-Invited talk at A Social Epistemology of Social Media Workshop at TU Berlin, June 2023.

“What Will It Take to Fix Social Media?”

-Invited keynote address at Hobart & William Smith Round Robin Debate Tournament, April 2023.

-Invited talk at Skidmore College, April 2024.

-Invited talk at Middlebury College, April 2024.

“Social Epistemology for Alternative Social Media Futures” (three presentations)

-Invited keynote address at Graduate Student Workshop in Applied Philosophy at Bowling Green University, April 2023.

-Invited virtual lecture at the Seminar in Formal and Social Epistemology at Sorbonne Université, Paris, January 2023.

-Invited virtual lecture for "INTERACT! New forms of social interaction with intelligent systems" at Ruhr-University Bochum, January 2023.

“Who Should We Be Online?”

-Invited keynote address at A Book Symposium with Karen Frost-Arnold *Who Should We Be Online? A Social Epistemology for the Internet* by African Centre for Epistemology and Philosophy of Science at University of Johannesburg August 2022.

“Epistemic Decolonization, Trust, and Social Media Futures”

-Invited colloquium talk at the Philosophy Department and the African Centre for Epistemology and Philosophy of Science at University of Johannesburg, August 2022.

“Against Nostalgia for Public Trust”

-Invited virtual talk at Trust in Information workshop at the High-Performance Computing Center (HLRS) Stuttgart, Germany, April 2022.

“Echo Chambers, Trust, and Epistemic Agency” (two presentations)

-Invited virtual talk at University of Innsbruck, December 2021.

-Invited virtual keynote at Epistemology of the Internet Conference by African Centre for Epistemology and Philosophy of Science at University of Johannesburg, November 2021.

PRESENTATIONS (CONT.)

“Epistemic Trash and Toxic Content”

-Invited virtual keynote at Beyond Fake News: Mitigating the Spread of Epistemically Toxic Content Workshop by Zefat Academic College and University of Haifa, April 2021.

“Epistemic Justice and the Challenges of Online Moderation” (eight presentations)

-Invited virtual talk at University of Cincinnati, October 2020.

-Invited keynote at Knowledge in a Digital World: Epistemic Injustice, Bias, and other Challenges in the Age of Artificial Intelligence, Canadian Society for Epistemology, Montreal, November 2019.

- Invited keynote at Living Together Online: Social Epistemology, Ethics, and the Internet, The Bodaken Philosophy Symposium, Colorado State University, October 2019.

-Invited talk at University of Connecticut, March 2019.

-Invited Theatre Frame/Works talk at Hobart & William Smith, March 2019. Presented under the title “Bias and Exploitation in Online Content Moderation”

-Invited talk at SUNY Buffalo, February 2019.

-Minds of Our Own Conference, MIT, November 2018.

-Invited talk at Le Moyne College, November 2018.

“Epistemically and Ethically Responsible Methodologies for Social Epistemology of the Internet”

-Virtual talk at the Social (Distance) Epistemology Series, April 2020.

“Fake News, Objectivity, and White Ignorance” (three presentations)

-Invited talk at University of Calgary, September 2018.

-Invited keynote at Fake Knowledge Conference, University of Cologne, June 2018.

-Invited talk at Cornell University, November 2017. Presented under the title “Fake News, Trust, and White Ignorance: Lessons from Social Epistemology”

“Virtue Epistemology and the Challenges of Online Moderation”

-Invited talk at Science, Technology, and the Good Life workshop, University of Notre Dame, April 2018.

“Against (and beyond) Neutrality in Moderation”

-All Things in Moderation Conference, UCLA, December 2017.

PRESENTATIONS (CONT.)

“How an Epistemology of Ignorance Maintains Wikipedia's Gender Gap”

-The Association of Internet Researchers (AOIR) Annual Meeting, Tartu, October 2017.

“To Lurk or Not to Lurk? Epistemically Trustworthy Habits for Unlearning Ignorance”
(four presentations)

-International Association for Computing and Philosophy (IACAP) Annual Meeting, Stanford, June 2017. Presented under the title: “The Epistemic Virtues and Vices of Online Lurking.”

-Invited symposium talk at Eastern American Philosophical Association Meeting, Baltimore, January 2017.

-Invited lecture at the Gender, Sexuality and Women’s Studies program, University of Pittsburgh, January 2017. Presented under the title: “To Lurk or Not to Lurk? A Feminist Philosophy for the Internet.”

-Feminist Epistemologies, Methodologies, Metaphysics, and Science Studies (FEMMSS6), Notre Dame, October 2016. Presented under the title: “Lurking, Ignorance, & Ontological Expansiveness: A Virtue Epistemology for the Internet.”

“The Epistemic Dangers of Context Collapse Online”

-Penn-Rutgers-Princeton Social Epistemology Workshop, Philadelphia, April 2017.

Commentary on Heidi Grasswick’s “Science and the Challenge of Epistemic Trustworthiness: A Situated Approach”

-Invited comments at Pacific American Philosophical Association meeting, Seattle, April 2017.

“Strategies for Dealing with Online Harassment”

-Invited panel presentation at Eastern American Philosophical Association Meeting, Washington, DC, January 2016.

With Carly Petroski & Marjorie Doris-Pierce “Silencing the Silencers: The Ethics of Feminist Trolling to Combat Online Hate Speech”

-Association for Feminist Ethics and Social Theory (FEAST), Clearwater Beach, October 2015.

“The Matthew Effect and Trustworthiness in Research Teams”

-15th Congress of Logic, Methodology, and Philosophy of Science, Helsinki, August 2015.

“Trust and the Epistemology of Trolling”

-Invited lecture at the Sawyer Seminar on the Nature of Trust, Northwestern University (May 2015).

PRESENTATIONS (CONT.)

“Trust Accountability and Online Anonymity”

-Invited keynote address at the Rochester Institute of Technology Undergraduate Conference in Philosophy (May 2015).

“Trust, Activism, and Social Media”

-Invited public lecture at Sentiments & Declarations, Women’s Rights National Historical Park in Seneca Falls (September 2014).

“Thirty Years of Computer Ethics, Going Forward”

-Invited panel presentation at Computer Ethics: Philosophical Enquiry (CEPE) 2014 Conference, Les Cordeliers, Paris (June 2014).

“Social Media, Trust, and the Epistemology of Prejudice” (four presentations)

-Computer Ethics: Philosophical Enquiry (CEPE) 2014 Conference, Les Cordeliers, Paris (June 2014). Presented under the title “Virtual Trust and Ignorance: Using Social Media to Challenge Privilege and Prejudice.”

-Invited talk at SUNY Albany (February 2014).

-Invited talk at Shimer College (January 2014). Presented under the title “Can Social Media Combat Prejudice? Challenging Ignorance through Trust.”

-Invited talk at Northwestern University (January 2014).

“Objectivity and Trustworthy Scientific Practice” (two presentations)

-Invited talk at the Western New York Philosophy of Science Circle, Rochester Institute of Technology (August 2013).

-Objectivity in Science Conference, University of British Columbia (June 2010). Presented under the title “Objectivity, Ignorance, and Trustworthiness.”

“Imposters, Evil-Deceivers, & Trustworthiness as an Epistemic Virtue”

-Society for Analytical Feminism Conference, Vanderbilt University (October 2012).

“Imposters and the Epistemology of Trust”

-Feminist Epistemologies, Methodologies, Metaphysics and Science Studies Conference (FEMMSS4), Pennsylvania State University (May 2012).

“Rational Trust, Belief, and Acceptance”

-Invited talk at the Orange Beach Epistemology Workshop, Orange Beach (University of South Alabama) (May 2012).

“The Manipulation of Science by Special Interest Groups: Lessons from Feminist Epistemology”

-Invited talk at Wellesley College (November 2009).

PRESENTATIONS (CONT.)

“Finding the Future of Feminist Epistemology in the Legacy of Feminist Ethics”
-Feminist Legacies/ Feminist Futures: *Hypatia* 25th Anniversary Conference,
University of Washington (October 2009).

“Trust, Fraud, and the Social Epistemology of Science”
-Australasian Association of the History, Philosophy and Social Studies of Science,
Emmanuel College, Brisbane (July 2009).

“The Epistemic Value of Trust in the Drosophilist Community”
-International Society for the History, Philosophy, and Social Studies of Biology,
Emmanuel College, Brisbane (July 2009).

“Commentary on ‘Female Orgasms and Evolutionary Biology’ by Elisabeth Lloyd”
-Pittsburgh Workshop in History and Philosophy of Biology, Center for Philosophy
of Science, University of Pittsburgh (March 2002).

“Evaluating Science on Epistemic and Moral Grounds” (two presentations)
-Presented at the Pitt-London Workshop in the Philosophy of Biology and
Neuroscience (September 2001).
-Presented at the University of Pittsburgh Graduate Student Colloquium
(September 2001).

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

- June 2018: Applied Epistemology Writing Retreat participant, DePauw University.
- 2014-2015: Fisher Center Research Fellow, Hobart & William Smith Colleges.
- Spring 2007: Dean’s Tuition Scholarship, University of Pittsburgh
- 2004-2005: Andrew W. Mellon Dissertation Fellowship, University of Pittsburgh
- 2001-2002: Anna Margaret and Mary Sloan Fellowship, University of Pittsburgh
- 1999-2000: Andrew W. Mellon Pre-Doctoral Fellowship, University of Pittsburgh

TEACHING

At Hobart & William Smith Colleges

- Technology, Truth, and Trust
- Philosophy Senior Seminar: Philosophy of the Internet
- Power, Privilege & Knowledge
- Experiencing & Knowing
- Introduction to Women’s Studies
- Contemporary Issues: Philosophy & Feminism
- Feminism: Ethics & Knowledge
- Introduction to Philosophy
- Trust & Betrayal
- Ethics of Civic Engagement
- Sessions on “Ethical Decision-Making” for HWS Leads Reader’s College and the HWS
Leadership Institute with Rodmon King

TEACHING (CONT.)

-Beyond Borders Independent Study & MAT Reader

At UNLV:

-Ethics for Engineers and Scientists
-Critical Thinking and Reasoning

SERVICE

-Search Committee for Director of Intercultural Programs and Initiatives (Spring/Summer 2024)
-Member of ODEI working team for Strategic Diversity Plan Accountability Process
-Teaching Fellow Liaison (fall 2023)
-Member of sub-committee on Diversity, Equity, and Social Justice (2022-2024)
-Chair, Review III Committee for Philosophy (2020-2021)
-Chair of Women's Studies Program (2016-2019 (on leave spring 2017))
-Member of Social Justice Studies Steering Committee (2018-present)
-Chair, Review II Committee for Women's Studies (fall 2017) (fall 2019)
-Writing Enriched Curriculum Philosophy co-Liaison (2016)
-Search Committee for Deputy Title IX Coordinator (2016).
-Member of Interim Sexual Misconduct Policy working group (2014-2015).
-Faculty Advisor for HWS student Pride Alliance club (spring 2015).
-Member of Review I Committee for Women's Studies (2015) for Philosophy (2019 and 2021).
-Search Committee Chair for position in Metaphysics/Philosophy of Mind (2014-2015).
-Women's Studies Steering Committee (2009-2019)
-Organizer for Ann Palmeri Lecture in Feminist Philosophy (2009-present).
-Member of the Sexual Violence Task Force (2013-2016).
-Member of LGBTQ & Allies group (2013-2019).
-Philosophy Department Library Liaison (2013-2015).
-Member of Institutional Review Board (IRB) for Hobart & William Smith Colleges (2011-2014).
-Co-coordinator of Faculty Learning Community on Transgender Identities and Pedagogies (Spring 2014).
-Women's Studies Search Committee for position in Feminism & Health (Spring 2012)
-Member of the Service-Learning Advisory Council for the Center for Community Engagement and Service-Learning at Hobart & William Smith (2010-2011).
-Member of Engaged Citizenship Committee for HWS 2015 Strategic Plan (2010).