

# Amanda Beth Corris

Curriculum Vitae | March 2020

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University of Cincinnati | 206 McMicken Hall, Cincinnati, OH 45221-0374, USA

## EDUCATION

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Ph.D. (*expected 2020*). University of Cincinnati, Philosophy and the Life Sciences

- Dissertation: *Organism-environment codetermination: the biological roots of enactivism*
- Committee: Anthony Chemero (Co-Chair), Angela Potochnik (Co-Chair), Thomas Polger, Nathan Morehouse (Biology)

M.A. (2019). University of Cincinnati, Philosophy and the Life Sciences

- Qualifying Exam: Early Modern Philosophy. Committee: Zvi Biener, Robert C. Richardson

M.A. (2013). University of Sussex, Philosophy

B.A. (Honors) (2012). University at Albany, SUNY, Philosophy

## AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

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Philosophy of Cognitive Science, Philosophy of Biology

## AREAS OF COMPETENCE

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Philosophy of Science, History of 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> Century Philosophy

## PUBLICATIONS

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2020. Corris, Amanda and Anthony Chemero, "The broad scope of enactivism", *Adaptive Behavior*, 28(1), 27–28.  
<https://doi.org/10.1177/1059712319843268>

2019. Corris, Amanda and Anthony Chemero, "A second-order intervention", *Philosophical Studies*, 176 (3): 819–826.

## PRESENTATIONS

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### *Talks*

July 2020. “Reciprocal causation across biology and cognitive science”. 8<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference of the Society for Philosophy of Science in Practice, Michigan State University, MI, USA.

March 2020. “Divergence of values and goals in participatory research”, with L. Dunlap, M. Jacquart, A. Potochnik, and Z. Biener. Colloquium on Doing Science in a Pluralistic Society, University of Dayton, OH, USA.

November 2019. “Ecofeminism in the field: the role of women in small-scale sustainable agriculture”. 2019 meeting of the International Association for Environmental Philosophy, University of Pittsburgh, PA, USA.

October 2019. “Ecofeminism in the field: the role of women in small-scale sustainable agriculture”. 2019 meeting of the Canadian Society for Women in Philosophy, University of Guelph, ON, CA.

March 2019. “Ontological adjuncts to an enactive theory of color”. 74<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Maine Philosophical Institute, University of Southern Maine, ME, USA.

### *Posters*

April 2019. “Enactive Evolution”. Evolution Evolving: Process, Mechanism and Theory. University of Cambridge, Cambridge, UK.

March 2018. “Ontological Adjuncts to an Enactive Theory of Color”. Enactivism: Theory and Performance. University of Memphis, TN, USA.

### *Comments*

April 2019. Comments on Christopher Stratman’s “Limited Phenomenal Infallibility and Cognitive Phenomenology”. 2019 Annual Meeting of the Ohio Philosophical Association, Wittenberg University, OH, USA.

March 2019. Comments on Hunter Gentry’s “Extended Control in Goal-Directed Behavior”. 111<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology, Cincinnati, OH, USA.

## WORKS IN PROGRESS

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### *Book chapters*

(*invited submission*) Amanda Corris and Anthony Chemero, “Embodiment and Enactivism”, to appear in *Mind, Cognition, and Neuroscience: A Philosophical Introduction*, eds. Benjamin D. Young & Carolyn Dicey Jennings, Routledge Press (*under contract*)

### *Papers*

*(invited submission)* “Defining the environment in organism-environment systems”, under review *(draft available)*

“The utility of model organisms in behavioral genetics”, in preparation for journal submission *(draft available)*

With Nathan Morehouse and Olivia Harris, paper on philosophy of color for a visual ecology audience

With Lucas Dunlap, Melissa Jacquart, Angela Potochnik, and Zvi Biener, “Divergence of Values and Goals in Participatory Research”

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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Fall 2018. Research assistantship in Philosophy of Biology with Robert A. Skipper, Jr.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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### *As instructor*

- PHIL1007: Philosophy through Movies, Summer 2020 (online)
- PHIL3027/EVST3027: Environmental Ethics, Summer 2019 (online)
- PHIL2055: Philosophy of the Visual Arts, Spring 2019 (in person)
- PHIL2041: Minds and Machines, Summer 2018 (in person)
- PHIL1003: Introduction to Ethics, Summer 2017 (in person)

### *As teaching assistant*

- PHIL1002: Mind and Will, Spring 2018
- PHIL1089: Sex and Death, Fall 2017
- PHIL1002: Mind and Will, Spring 2017
- PHIL1003: Introduction to Ethics, Fall 2016

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

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### *At University of Cincinnati*

Graduate Association for Teaching Excellence (GATE) Workshops: Capturing Your Student's Attention (13 February 2017), Models of Teaching Excellence (24 January 2018)

## FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, AND AWARDS

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- Charles Phelps Taft Dissertation Fellow, 2019-2020
- University of Cincinnati, Tuition Award, 2016-2020
- Travel Awards: Taft Research Center, Graduate Student Government Association (x2), 2019

- Taft Graduate Enrichment Award, 2017-2018

## PROFESSIONAL AND DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

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### *Conference Referee*

Ohio Philosophical Association, 2019

### *Journal Referee*

*Philosophical Psychology*, 2019

*Adaptive Behavior*, 2019

### *At University of Cincinnati*

- Member, Center for Public Engagement with Science, 2018-current
- Graduate Student Representative, Philosophy Graduate Student Association, 2018-2019
- Assistant, Philosophy of Biology Colloquium, University of Cincinnati, Fall 2018
- Admissions Committee, Emerging Philosophers in Cincinnati (EPIC) Workshop, Spring 2018
- Undergraduate Philosophy Club Coordinator, 2017-2018
- Treasurer, Philosophy Graduate Student Association, 2016-2018

### *At University of Sussex*

- Graduate Student Representative, Department of Philosophy, 2012-2013
- Graduate Student Representative, School of History, Art History, and Philosophy, 2012-2013

## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

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- Philosophy of Science Association
- Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology
- International Society for the History, Philosophy, and Social Studies of Biology
- Ohio Philosophical Association
- International Association for Environmental Philosophy
- Canadian Society for Women in Philosophy

## GRADUATE COURSEWORK

### *At University of Cincinnati: Philosophy*

- Utilitarianism
- Philosophy of Language
- History of Logical Empiricism

Vanessa Carbonell
Peter Langland-Hassan
Angela Potochnik

- Philosophy of Science: Mechanisms
- Philosophy of Mind
- Philosophy of Biology: Behavioral Genetics
- Descartes
- Symbolic Logic
- Philosophy of Cognitive Science: Intersubjectivity
- Philosophy of Science: Models and Simulations

Robert C. Richardson  
Thomas Polger  
Robert A. Skipper, Jr.  
Robert C. Richardson  
Angela Potochnik  
Heidi Maibom  
Melissa Jacquart

*At University of Cincinnati: Biology*

- Animal Behavior
- Comparative Physiology

George Uetz  
Elke Buschbeck

*At University of Cincinnati: Psychology*

- Statistics
- History and Philosophy of Psychology

Michael Richardson  
Anthony Chemero

*At University of Cincinnati: audited*

- Hume
- History and Philosophy of Biology: Agents and Goals in Evolution
- Evolution (*Biology*)

Lawrence J. Jost  
Robert C. Richardson  
  
Lucinda Lawson

*At University of Sussex*

- Analytic Aesthetics
- Phenomenology
- Nietzsche
- Ethics

Kathleen Stock  
Tanja Staehler  
Paul Davies  
Anthony Booth

*At University at Albany, SUNY*

- Philosophy of Science: Natural Kinds
- Philosophy of Mind

P.D. Magnus  
Ron McClamrock

## REFERENCES

*Philosophy*

Anthony Chemero, Ph.D.  
Professor  
Departments of Philosophy and Psychology  
University of Cincinnati  
chemeray@ucmail.uc.edu

Thomas Polger, Ph.D.  
Professor  
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Angela Potochnik, Ph.D.  
Associate Professor  
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Robert A Skipper, Jr. Ph.D.  
Professor  
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*Biology*

Nathan Morehouse, Ph.D.  
Associate Professor  
Department of Biology  
University of Cincinnati  
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### **Organism-environment codetermination: the biological roots of enactivism**

Traditional approaches to cognition take it to be a fundamentally brain-based phenomenon. On this view, the brain functions as a type of information processing center, making cognition a matter of computational processing and representational symbol manipulation. In contrast, embodied, enactive approaches to cognition emphasize the role of the body in cognition and non-representational perception-action dynamics. While the embodied and enactive paradigm has been gaining in popularity in cognitive science, it has yet to adequately engage with complementary approaches in biology. In this dissertation, I argue that an enactive approach to cognition in nature can be enriched by incorporating the central tenets of both developmental systems theory and evolutionary developmental biology. This framework, which I term biological enactivism, defines organisms as cognizing systems structured by both their internal dynamics and their dynamic relations with environmental features corresponding to their sensorimotor capacities, developed as a result of their coupled interactions with their environments over both developmental and, on a population scale, evolutionary time. The overarching goal is to motivate a picture of biological cognition that emphasizes the strongly dynamic relationship between embodied organisms and the complex environments in which they live.