

CURRICULUM VITAE

Stefan Linquist

2025

University of Guelph

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Education

- 2005 Ph.D. Philosophy, Duke University.
- 2000 M.Sc. Biology, State University of New York, Binghamton.
- 1996 B.A. Philosophy, Simon Fraser University.

Academic Appointments

- 2014 – present Associate Professor of Philosophy, University of Guelph.
- 2008 – present Adjunct Professor of Integrative Biology, University of Guelph.
- 2008 – 2014 Assistant Professor of Philosophy, University of Guelph.
- 2005 – 2007 Postdoctoral Research Fellow, University of Queensland.

Awards, Honours & Grants

- 2024. Transposable Genetic Elements as Ecological Agents. Research Award from the John Templeton Foundation. \$836,711
- 2019. Barriers and Opportunities for Commercialization of Gene-Edited Beef and Dairy Products (Co-Investigator). *Genome Canada, Genomics in Society Interdisciplinary Research Initiative*. \$1,424, 374
- 2016. The Use and Abuse of Function Concepts in Genomics. *SSHRC Insight Grant* (Principal Investigator). \$85,279
- 2016. University of Guelph Faculty Association. Distinguished Professor Award for Excellence in Teaching.
- 2012. University of Guelph, College of Arts Dean's Council Funding Award. Interdisciplinary Applications of Ecological Thinking." Workshop: \$5,500.
- 2009. SSHRC Aid to Workshops and Conferences in Canada. "Conceptual Issues in Functional Imaging." Conference: \$6,720.

2008. Environmental Sciences Research Initiative, University of Guelph, Integrative Research Award. Disciplinary Perspectives on Biodiversity. \$10,000.

Publications

Book

Newman, J. Varner, G. Linquist, S. (2017) *Defending Biodiversity: Environmental Science and Ethics*. Cambridge University Press (435 pages).

Edited Volumes

Linquist, S. and Doolittle, W.F. (2021), Function, Junk and Transposable Elements: Contested Issues in the Science of Genomics. *Special Edition of Biology & Philosophy*.

Odenbaugh, J. and Linquist, S. (2019), The Philosophy of Ecology. *Philosophical Topics*, Volume 47.

Linquist, S. (2010), *The International Library of Essays on Evolutionary Thought: The Philosophy of Evolutionary Biology Volume I*. Ashgate Publishing: Surrey, England (616 pages).

Linquist, S. & Levy, N. (2010), *The International Library of Essays on Evolutionary Thought: Evolutionary Psychology: Volume II*. Ashgate Publishing: Surrey, England (456 pages).

Linquist, S. (2010), *The International Library of Essays on Evolutionary Thought: The Evolution of Culture: Volume IV*. Ashgate Publishing: Surrey, England (538 pages).

Journal Articles

Linquist, S. Fullerton, B. Grewal, A. (2023) “Epigenetic this, epigenetic that: comparing two digital humanities methods for investigating a slippery scientific term. *Synthese* 202: 68 <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11229-023-04265-5>

Linquist, S. (2022), “Causal-role myopia and the functional investigation of junk DNA.” *Biology & Philosophy* 37(28). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10539-022-09853-2>

Linquist, S. (2022) “Breaking news from genome-level ecology: not everything that is a Darwinian individual should be scientifically regarded as such.” In *Azimuth* special issue on Darwin’s Tangled Legacy.

Linquist, S. and Fullerton, B. (2021), “Transposon dynamics and the epigenetic switch hypothesis.” *Theoretical Medicine and Bioethics* 42:137-154. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11017-021-09548-x>

- Kremer, S. C. Linquist, S. Saylor, B. Elliott, T.A. Gregory, T.R. Cottenie, K. (2021) "Long-term TE persistence even without beneficial insertion." *BMC Genomics* 22:260. doi: [10.1186/s12864-021-07568-4](https://doi.org/10.1186/s12864-021-07568-4)
- Forey, O. and Linquist, S. (2020), "Ecological laws for agroecological design: the need for more organized collaboration in producing, evaluating, and updating ecological generalizations." *History and Philosophy of the Life Sciences* 42: <https://doi.org/10.1007/s40656-020-00336-9>
- Kremer, S. C. Linquist, S. Saylor, B. Elliott, T.A. Gregory, T.R. Cottenie, K. (2020), "Transposable element persistence via potential genome-level ecosystem engineering." *BMC Genomics* 21. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12864-020-6763-1>
- Linquist, S. Doolittle, W.F. Palazzo, A.F. (2020), "Getting clear about the F-word in genomics." *PLOS Genetics*, 16(4): e1008702. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pgen.1008702>
- Linquist, S. (2020), "Two (and a half) arguments for conserving biodiversity on aesthetic grounds." *Biology & Philosophy*, 35(6): <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10539-019-9726-7>
- Linquist, S. (2019), "Why ecology and evolution occupy distinct epistemic niches." *Philosophical Topics* 47(1): 143-166.
- Linquist, S. Newman, J.A. Varner, G. (2019), "Precis of Defending Biodiversity." *Biology & Philosophy* 35(14): <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10539-019-9722-y>
- Linquist, S. (2018), "The conceptual critique of innateness." *Philosophy Compass*, e12492
- Linquist, S. (2018), "Commitment enforcement also explains shamanism's culturally shared features. *Behavioral and Brain Sciences*, 41doi.org/10.1017/S0140525X17002114.
- Scheel, D. Godfrey-Smith, P. Linquist, S. Chancellor, S. Hing, M. Lawrence, M. (2018) "octopus engineering, intentional and inadvertent. *Communicative and Integrative Biology* 11(1): e1395994.. doi: [10.1080/19420889.2017.1395994](https://doi.org/10.1080/19420889.2017.1395994)
- Schneider, S. Taylor, G.W. Linquist, S. Kremer, S.C. (2018), "Past, present and future approaches using computer vision for animal re-identification from camera trap data." *Methods in Ecology and Evolution* 10: 461-470.
- Scheel, D. Chancellor, S. Hing, M. Lawrence, M. Linquist, S. Godfrey-Smith, P. (2017), "A second site occupied by *Octopus tetricus* at high densities, with notes on their ecology and behavior." *Marine and Freshwater Behaviour and Physiology* 50: 285-291
- Linquist, S. (2016), "Which evolutionary model best explains the culture of honour?" *Biology & Philosophy*, 31(2): 213-235.
- Linquist, S. Gregory, T.R. Elliott, T.A. Saylor, B. Kremer, S.C. Cottenie, K. (2016), "Yes!

- There are resilient generalizations ('laws') in ecology." *Quarterly Review of Biology*, 91(2): 119-131.
- Linguist, S. (2015), "Against Lawton's contingency thesis, or, why the reported demise of community ecology is greatly exaggerated." *Philosophy of Science*, 82:1104-1115
- Linguist, S. Cottenie, K. Elliott, T.A. Saylor, B. Kremer, S.C. and Gregory, T.R. (2015), "Applying ecological models to communities of genetic elements: the case of neutral theory." *Molecular Ecology*, 24(13): 3232-3242.
- Bartol, J. and Linguist, S. (2015), "How do somatic markers feature in decision making?" *Emotion Review*, 7(1): 81-89.
- Elliott, T.A. Linguist, S. Gregory, T.R. (2014), "Conceptual and empirical challenges of ascribing functions to transposable elements." *American Naturalist*, 184 (1), 14-24.
- Doolittle, W. F. Brunet, T. Linguist, S. Gregory, T.R. (2014). "Distinguishing between function and effect in genome biology." *Genome Biology and Evolution*, 6, 1234-1237.
- Linguist, S. Saylor, B., Cottenie, K., Elliott, T. & Gregory, R. (2013), "Distinguishing ecological from evolutionary approaches to transposable elements." *Biological Reviews*, 88(3):573-584.
- Saylor, B. Elliott, T.A. Linguist, S. Kremer, S.C. Gregory, T.R. Cottenie, K. (2013), "A novel application of ecological analyses to transposable element distributions in the *Bos taurus* genome." *Genome*, 56: 521-533.
- Linguist, S. & Bartol, J. (2013), "Two myths about somatic markers." *British Journal for the Philosophy of Science*, 64(3): 455-484.
- Linguist, S. Machery, E. Griffiths, P.E. Stotz, K. (2011), "Exploring the folkbiological conception of human nature." *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society of London Series B: Biological Sciences*, 366(1563): 444-454.
- Griffiths, P. E. Machery, E. Linguist, S. (2009), "The vernacular concept of innateness." *Mind and Language*, 24(5): 605-630.
- Colyvan, M. Linguist, S. Grey, W. Griffiths, P.E. Odenbaugh, J. Possingham, H.P. (2009), "Philosophical issues in ecology: Recent trends and future directions." *Ecology and Society*, 14(22): 1-12.
- Linguist, S. (2008), "But is it progress? On the alleged advances of conservation biology over ecology." *Biology & Philosophy*, 23: 529-544.
- Linguist, S. (2007), "Prospects for a dual inheritance model of emotional evolution."

Philosophy of Science, 74: 848–859.

Linquist, S. & Rosenberg, A. (2007), “Return of the tabula rasa.” *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*, 74(2): 476–497.

Rosenberg, A. & Linquist, S. (2005), “On the original contract: Evolutionary game theory and human evolution.” *Analyse & Kritik*, 27(1): 136–157.

Book Chapters and Encyclopedia Entries

Griffiths, P.E. and Linquist, S. (2022) “The Distinction Between Innate and Acquired Characteristics”, *The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy* (Spring 2022 Edition), Edward N. Zalta (ed.). <https://plato.stanford.edu/archives/spr2022/entries/innate-acquired>

Machery, E., Griffiths, P.E. Linquist, S. Stotz, K. (2019), "Scientists' conception of innateness: evolution or attraction?" In D.A. Wilkenfeld & R. Samuels (Ed.s) *Advances in Experimental Philosophy of Science*. N.Y.: Blumsbury Academic (pp 172-204).

Linquist, S. (2018), “Today’s awe-inspiring design, tomorrow’s Plexiglas dinosaur: how public aquariums contradict their conservation mandate in the pursuit of immersive underwater experiences.” Ben Minter, James P. Collins, Jane Maienschein (Eds.) *The Arc and Beyond: Essays on the History and Philosophy of Zoos and Aquariums*. Chicago University Press.

Gregory, T. R. Elliott, T. A. Linquist, S. (2017), “Why Genomics Needs Multi-level Evolutionary Theory.” *Evolutionary Theory: A Hierarchical Perspective*. N. Eldridge, T. Pievani, E. Serrelli, I. Temkin (Eds.) U. Chicago Press (p. 137-150).

Griffiths, P. E. Machery, E. Linquist, S. (2009), “The vernacular concept of innateness.” Reprinted in J. Knobe and S. Nichols (Eds.) *Experimental Philosophy, Volume 2*. Oxford University Press (pp. 281-305).

Linquist, S. (2010), Volume Introduction. *The International Library of Essays on Evolutionary Thought: The Philosophy of Evolutionary Biology: Volume I*. Ashgate Publishing: Surrey, England (p. xi-liv).

Linquist, S. and Levy, N. (2010), Volume Introduction. *The International Library of Essays on Evolutionary Thought: Evolutionary Psychology: Volume II*. Ashgate Publishing: Surrey, England (p. xi-xlv).

Linquist, S. (2010), Volume Introduction. *The International Library of Essays on*

Evolutionary Thought: The Evolution of Culture: Volume IV. Ashgate Publishing: Surrey, England (p. xi-xli).

Review Essays and Book Reviews

Linquist S. (2020) Review of John Basl, *The Death of the Ethic of Life*. *Quarterly Review of Biology* 95: 132-133.

Linquist, S. (2015) Review of James Tabery, *Beyond Versus; The Struggle to Understand the Interaction of Nature and Nurture*. *Journal of the History of Biology* 48: 357-360.

Linquist. S. (2007), "If it feels good, believe it." Review essay on Paul Thagard, *Hot Thought: Mechanisms and Applications of Emotional Cognition*. *Notre Dame Philosophical Review*.

Linquist, S. (2006), "When is an orgasm just an orgasm?" Review essay on Elizabeth Lloyd *The Case of the Female Orgasm: Bias in the Science of Evolution*. *Metascience*, 15:411-419.

Conference and Workshop Presentations (previous seven years)

2023 "Gene editing can mitigate animal suffering, but welfare advocates shouldn't endorse it." *Biennial Meeting of the International Society for the History, Philosophy and Social Studies of Biology*. Toronto, Ontario. 11.07.2023

"Epigenetic this, epigenetic that. Comparing two digital humanities methods for analyzing a slippery scientific term" *Big Data and HPS*. Toronto, Ontario. 19.05.2023

(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FZHyghTiTeg&list=PLnOtdGODiXLS_Bub5cUG7XGWLN8XSUF0&index=14)

2022 "Breaking news from genome-level ecology: not everything that is a Darwinian individual should be scientifically regarded as such." *Colloquim Presentation*. University of Western Ontario. 25.04.2022

2021 "Transposon dynamics and the epigenetic switch hypothesis." *Digital Studies of Digital Science*. UC Louvain, Belgium. 15.03.2021.

2019 "Practical guidelines for universal Darwinism." *Biennial Meeting of the International Society for the History, Philosophy and Social Studies of Biology*. Oslo, Norway.

10.07.2019.

“Defending Biodiversity: Authors Meet Critics.” *Annual Pacific Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association*. Vancouver, BC. 08.04.2019.

2018 “The genome as ecosystem: clarifying a novel approach to jumping genes. *Philosophy of Biology at the Mountains (POBAM)*, Salt Lake, Utah 18.05.2018.

“Four decades debating junk DNA and the Phenotype Paradigm is (somehow) alive and well.” *Workshop on Evolutionary Roles of Transposable Elements and Non-coding DNA: The Science and the Philosophy*. Dalhousie University 20.10.2018.

“Implicit values in biodiversity judgments: a case of stealth advocacy.” *Canadian Society for Ecology and Evolution*. Guelph, Canada. 20.07.2018

“Does Junk DNA provide habitat for transposable elements? A simulation model for genome level ecology.” *Invited presentation at Philosophy of Biology Week in Halifax*, Halifax, Canada-Nova Scotia. 07.07.2018.

“Testing rival models of cultural evolution with large sets of ethnographic data.” *Learning from Empirical Approaches to the History and Philosophy of Science (LEAHPS)*. Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. 07.04.2018.

2017 “Cultural phylogenies in theory versus practice.” *Pacific Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association*. Seattle, WA. 15.04.2017.

2016 “An ecological approach to mobile DNA.” *International Meeting of The Hierarchy Group: Approaching Complex Systems in Evolutionary Biology*. National Academy of Sciences, Washington DC. 22.09.2016./

2015 “How best to reform function concepts in genomics?” *Biennial Meeting of the International Society for the History, Philosophy and Social Studies of Biology*. Montreal, Canada. 11.07.2015.

“Why climate science and climate advocacy should remain at arm`s length.” *Annual Meeting of the Canadian Philosophical Association*. Ottawa, Canada. 06.06.2015

Teaching

Undergraduate Courses

Philosophy 1050	Introduction to Philosophy: Basic Problems.
Philosophy 2000	Philosophy of Biology
Philosophy 2070	Philosophy of the Environment
Philosophy 2080	Animals in Philosophy (DE)
Philosophy 2180	Philosophy of Science
Philosophy 2250	Knowledge, Mind & Language
Philosophy 3170	Critical Debates in the Philosophy of Science
Philosophy 3180	Philosophy of Mind
Philosophy 3280	20 th century Philosophy
Philosophy 4040	Advanced Philosophy of the Environment
Philosophy 4160	Philosophy Field Course
Philosophy 4550	Philosophy Honours Workshop

Graduate Courses

Philosophy 6740	Philosophy of Biology
Philosophy 6930	Special Topics: Philosophy of Emotion
Philosophy 6200	Contemporary Problems in the Philosophy of Science
Philosophy 6760	Science and Ethics

Graduate Supervision

Brady Fullerton	PhD	Evolution of aesthetics
Stefan Schneider	PhD 2020 (co-supervised)	Machine learning
Keiran Pattullo-Graf	MA 2016	Agricultural ethics
Jamie Robertson	MA 2011	Environmental philosophy
Jordan Bartol	MA 2011	Personalized genomics

Supervisory Committee

Amanda Rotella	PhD 2019 (Psychology)	Cooperation
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Corey Sawkins	PhD 2016	Scientific explanation
Martin King	PhD 2015	Scientific explanation
Christian Landy	MSc 2015 (Biology)	Evolution of aging
Adam Sparks	PhD 2015 (Psychology)	Evolutionary psychology
Tyler Elliott	PhD 2015 (Biology)	Transposable elements
Justin Price	MA 2012	Kuhn
Katherine Livins	MA (2010)	Qualia

Service and Administration

Conference and Workshop Organization

- 2023 Gene Editing as a Techno-Solution for Animal Suffering. Dual Session at the Biennial Meeting for History, Philosophy, and Social Studies of Biology.
- 2019 *Theoretical Approaches to Ecosystem Evolution*. October 20, 2019. Downtown Guelph.
- 2018 *Guelph Conference in Environmental Philosophy*. Co-organized with Brady Fullerton and Cameron Fioret. October 13 & 14, downtown Guelph.
- 2018 Evolutionary Roles of Transposable Elements and Non-coding DNA: The Science and the Philosophy. Co-organized with W. Ford Doolittle.. October 20 & 21, Dalhousie University.
- 2009 Organizing committee for Darwin Year Lecture Series.
Organizing committee for This View of Life art exhibition.
Organizing Committee for Multi-Disciplinary Conference: *Theoretical Issues in Functional Brain Imaging* (Guelph. May, 09).
- 2007 Organizing Committee for Annual conference for International Society of Emotion Research (Brisbane July, 07).
- 2006 Organizing Committee for *Third Annual Biohumanities Conference: Philosophy of Proximal Biology* (U of Queensland, Dec. 06).
- 2006 Organizing Committee for *Second Annual Biohumanities Conference: The Philosophy of Ecology* (U of Queensland, April, 06)
- 2005 Organizing Committee for *First Annual Biohumanities Conference:*

The Philosophy of Genetics (U of Queensland, Nov. 05).

2005 Organizing Committee for *Fourth Annual Conference in Biology and Philosophy*, (Duke University: May, 05).

Department Committees

2019-22 Undergraduate Curriculum Committee chair.

2018-19 Search Committee for Philosophy and Data Science position.
Undergraduate Curriculum Committee member.
Departmental Climate Committee member.
Website coordinator.

2016-17 Undergraduate Advisor
Website Coordinator
Tenure and promotion Committee

2015-16 Philosophy Department Speaker Series Coordinator
Tenure and Promotion Committee

2014-15 Sabbatical

2013-14 Graduate Admissions Committee
Parental leave

2012-13 Website Coordinator

2011-12 Website Coordinator.
Graduate Admissions Committee
Parental leave

2009 -11 Undergraduate Curriculum Committee
Sessional Hiring Committee

2008-9 External Relations Committee

College and University Committees

2016-2020 Bachelor of Environmental Sciences Program Committee, University of Guelph.

2009-14 Bachelor of Arts Program Committee, University of Guelph.

Referee for Journals:

Australasian Journal of Philosophy (2012, 2017, 2020)
Biology & Philosophy (2007, 2009, 2010, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2018, 2020).
British Journal for the Philosophy of Science (2010, 2011, 2019)
Evolution and Ecology (2017)
European Journal for the Philosophy of Science (2011, 2017)
Evolutionary Biology (2009)
Emotion Studies (2009)
Genome Biology and Evolution (2017)
Interface Focus (2016)
Mind & language (2018)
Philosophy Compass (2014)
Philosophy of Science (2012, 2014, 2016, 2017)
Studies in the History and Philosophy of Biological and Biomedical Science (2013)
Studies in the History and Philosophy of Science (2013, 2017, 2018, 2020)
Synthese (2015, 2018, 2020)

Referee for Books, Grants, Conferences

Cambridge University press (2018)
University of Toronto Press (2015)
MIT Press (2013)
Routledge (2013)
NSF Workshops and Conferences Grant (2010)
SSHRC Standard Research Grant (2010, 2012, 2018)
Research Council, University of Leuven (2009)
Association for Philosophy and Psychology (2007)