

# Johannes Himmelreich

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## ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Since 2019 **Assistant Professor**, Syracuse University  
Faculty Affiliate, Department of Philosophy  
Senior Research Associate, Campbell Public Affairs Institute  
Senior Research Associate, Autonomous Systems Policy Institute (ASPI)

2017-19 **Postdoctoral Fellow**, Stanford University and Apple University  
2015-17 **Postdoctoral Fellow**, Humboldt-Universität Berlin

## EDUCATION

### London School of Economics and Political Science

2016 Ph.D. Philosophy  
2011 M.Sc. Philosophy and Public Policy

### Bayreuth University

2010 B.A. Philosophy and Economics

## PUBLICATIONS

### Journal Articles

forthcoming Difference-making and the Control Relation that Grounds Responsibility in Hierarchical Groups  
*Philosophical Studies*

forthcoming The Disappearing Agent as an Exclusion Problem  
*Inquiry*

2023 Against Democratizing AI  
*AI & Society* 38

2023 What Killed your Plant? Profligate Omissions and Weak Centering  
*Erkenntnis* 88

2022 No Wheel but a Dial: Why and how passengers in self-driving cars should decide how their car drives  
*Ethics and Information Technology* 24(4)

- 2022 Responsible AI through Conceptual Engineering  
(with Sebastian Köhler)  
*Philosophy & Technology* 35(3)
- 2022 Using Artificial Intelligence to Identify Administrative Errors in Unemployment Insurance  
(with Danylo Honcharov, Matthew M Young, and Sucheta Soundarajan)  
*Government Information Quarterly* 39(4)
- 2021 Teaching Moral Reasoning: Why and How to Use the Trolley Problem  
(with Joshua Cohen)  
*Journal of Public Affairs Education* 27(4)
- 2021 Artificial Intelligence and Administrative Evil  
(with Matthew M Young, Justin Bullock and Kyoung-Cheol Kim)  
**Winner of the Camilla Stivers Best Article Award in Perspectives on Public Management and Governance**  
*Perspectives on Public Management and Governance* 4(3)
- 2021 Existence, Really? Tacit Disagreements about “Existence” in Disputes about Group Minds and Corporate Agents  
*Synthese* 198(5)
- 2020 Ethics of Technology needs more Political Philosophy  
*Communications of the ACM* 63(1)
- 2019 Responsibility for Killer Robots  
*Ethical Theory and Moral Practice* 22(3)
- 2019 Asylum for Sale: A Market between States that is Feasible and Desirable  
*Journal of Applied Philosophy* 36(2)
- 2019 Punishing Groups: When External Justice Takes Priority over Internal Justice  
(with Holly Lawford-Smith)  
*The Monist* 102(2)
- 2018 Never Mind the Trolley: The Ethics of Autonomous Vehicles in Mundane Situations  
*Ethical Theory and Moral Practice* 21(3)
- 2018 Agency and Embodiment: Groups, Human–Machine Interactions, and Virtual Realities  
*Ratio* 31(2)
- 2017 The Paraphrase Argument Against Collective Actions  
*Australasian Journal of Philosophy* 95(1)

2015 Epistemic Landscapes, Optimal Search and the Division of Cognitive Labor  
(with J. Alexander and C. Thompson)  
*Philosophy of Science* 82(3)

### **Books Chapters, Invited Contributions**

2022 AI and Structural Injustice: Foundations for Equity, Values, and Responsibility  
*Oxford Handbook of AI Governance*, Justin Bullock, Yu-Che Chen, Johannes  
Himmelreich, Valerie Hudson, Anton Korniek, Matthew Young, Baobao Zhang  
(eds.), Oxford University Press  
(with Désirée Lim)

forthcoming Justice and the Global Digital Economy  
*Justice in Global Economic Governance*, Axel Berger, Clara Brandi, Eszter Kollar  
(eds.), Edinburgh University Press

2022 Should we Automate Democracy?  
*Oxford Handbook of Digital Ethics*, Carissa Véliz (ed.), Oxford University Press

### **Conference Proceedings (peer reviewed)**

2021 The Right Tool for The Job? Assessing the Use of Artificial Intelligence for  
Identifying Administrative Errors  
(with Danylo Honcharov, Matthew M Young, and Sucheta Soundarajan)  
*The 22nd Annual International Conference on Digital Government Research*  
**Winner of the conference's best research paper award**

### **Edited Volumes**

2022 *Oxford Handbook of AI Governance*  
with Justin Bullock, Yu-Che Chen, Valerie Hudson, Anton Korinek, Matthew M  
Young, Baobao Zhang (eds.), Oxford University Press

### **Book Reviews**

2017 'Understanding Institutions' by F. Guala  
*Journal of Social Ontology* 3(2)

2015 'From Individual to Collective Intentionality' by Chant, Hindriks, Preyer (eds.)  
*Economics and Philosophy* 31(3)

### **Policy Briefings**

2021 Building Robust and Ethical Vaccination Verification Systems  
*Brookings Tech Stream* (co-authored with Baobao Zhang, Laurin Weissinger, Nina  
McMurry, Tiffany Li, Naomi Scheinerman, and Sarah Kreps)

2020 Contribution to a European Agenda for AI: Improving Risk Management, Building Strong Governance, Accelerating Education and Research  
*Public Consultation Response to European Commission White Paper on Artificial Intelligence*

### **Public Philosophy**

2018 The everyday moral challenges of self-driving cars  
*The Conversation, The Independent, Boston Globe* and others

2017 Asyl zu Verkaufen (on my 'Asylum for Sale')  
In: ‚Wenn ich mir etwas wünschen dürfte‘ Helfer, Meyer, Wettig (eds.)

### **AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS**

2022 **Birkhead-Burkhead Award for Teaching Excellence**, Department of Public Administration and International Affairs, Maxwell School at Syracuse University  
Camilla Stivers Award for best article in Perspectives on Public Management and Governance (PPMG) in 2021  
Ignaz Kögler Senior Fellow, Ingolstadt, Germany (offer declined)

2021 Best Research Paper Award, The 22nd Annual International Conference on Digital Government Research (DG.O2021)

2014-15 Fulbright Doctoral Fellowship (offer declined)

2012-15 German Academic Scholarship Foundation (Studienstiftung des Deutschen Volkes), Ph.D. research fellowship

2011 European Charlemagne Youth Prize (awarded by European Parliament to magazine *Europe & Me* as co-founder and editor)

2007-11 Konrad Adenauer Foundation, student fellowship

### **FUNDING**

Since 2019 CNY Humanities Corridor: Working Group “AI and Human Values,” together with Jens Kipper and Jon Herington

2024-26 **National Endowment for the Humanities:** Good Decisions — Data Science as a Moral Practice (Single-researcher project in the program Dangers and Opportunities of Technology)

2022 Appleby-Mosher Fund for Faculty Research, Syracuse University: The Philosophical Foundations of Data Science

- 2021 Summer Project Assistantship Grant, Syracuse University: The Philosophical Foundations of Data Science  
 APSIA Faculty Fund: Promoting Research and Teaching of Ethics of Data Science, together with Simon Munzert, Hertie School  
 Appleby-Mosher Fund for Faculty Research, Syracuse University: The Philosophical Foundations of Data Science
- 2020 Syracuse University CUSE Grant: Democratic Values and Artificial Intelligence in Public Places (PI)  
 Syracuse University CUSE Grant: AI and administrative error: the practice and ethics of AI decision-making in the public sector (Co-PI)
- 2018 Stanford Presence Center: AI in Medicine (AiME), seed grant  
 Stanford One Hundred Year Study on Artificial Intelligence (AI100), workshop grant
- 2017 Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG), workshop grant  
 Gesellschaft für Analytische Philosophie (GAP), workshop grant

## **PRESENTATIONS AND TALKS**

### **Invited Talks**

- 2023 Munich Center of Mathematical Philosophy, Chair of Christian List  
*What Experiments Can and Can't do for Political Philosophy*
- 2022 Philosophy, Politics & Economics Society, Ethics and Public Policy Working Group  
*The Regress Problem for Experiments in Living* (with Matthew Adams)
- 2021 American Society for Public Administration (ASPA), Science and Technology in Government Section, Brown Bag Lunch Seminar  
 Yale Law School, Information Society Project  
*Should AI be governed democratically?*
- 2020 German Development Institute, Bonn, Workshop on Justice in Global Economic Governance  
 Radcliffe Institute, Harvard University, Workshop on Ethics of Technology  
*Democratize AI?*
- 2019 Sonoma State University, Ethics of Engineering guest lecture  
*How (not) to think about the ethics of self-driving cars*

- 2017 University of Duisburg-Essen, Departmental Seminar  
*Responsibility Grounded: What are the Causal Foundations?*
- 2016 Princeton University, Conference ‘The State as a Collective Agent and Citizen  
Complicity in States’ Actions’  
*Can Responsibility be Delegated?*

### **Conference Presentations**

- 2022 German Analytic Philosophy Association (GAP.11), Berlin  
*The Regress Problem for Experiments in Living* (with Matthew Adams)
- APA Pacific Division Meeting, Vancouver  
*Against “Democratizing AI”*
- Annual Meeting of the Philosophy, Politics & Economics Society, New Orleans  
*What Experiments Can and Can’t do in Political Philosophy* (with Matthew Adams)
- 2021 DG.O 2021: 22nd Annual International Conference on Digital Government  
Research, online  
Values for AV Governance — How to overcome the conflict between efficiency and  
autonomy? Panel on Cyber-physical innovations
- DG.O 2021: 22nd Annual International Conference on Digital Government  
Research, online  
*The Right Tool for The Job? Assessing the Use of Artificial Intelligence for Identifying  
Administrative Errors* (with Matthew M. Young, Sucheta Soundarajan and Danylo  
Honcharov)
- University of Helsinki, Workshop on individual responsibility for collectively  
caused outcomes  
*Citizen Responsibility as Associative Responsibility*
- Business Ethics in the 6ix Workshop, Ted Rogers School of Management, Ryerson  
University, online  
*Should AI be governed democratically?*
- Embedding AI in Society Symposium, NC State University, online  
*Should AI be governed democratically?*
- IJCAI-PRCAI 2020: International Joint Conference on Artificial Intelligence —  
Pacific Rim International Conference on AI, online  
Panel Presentation on AI100 Workshop “Coding Caring”
- 2020 APPAM Fall Research Conference, online  
*The Right Tool for the Job? Assessing the Effectiveness and Ethics of Using of  
Artificial Intelligence for Identifying Administrative Errors* (co-authored with  
Matthew M. Young, Sucheta Soundarajan and Danylo Honcharov)

- 2019 APPAM Fall Research Conference, Denver  
*Ethics Assessments of Machine Learning Applications in Public Services: Lessons from Criminal Justice*
- NASPAA Annual Conference, Los Angeles  
*Three Misconceptions about Ethics in Data Analytics*
- Automated Vehicles Symposium 2019, Orlando  
*No Wheel but a Dial* (presented as: “The Correlated Dial”)
- 2018 Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress (RoME XI)  
*Trying, Striving and Falling Short: The Value of Difficult Pursuits*
- 2017 European Congress of Analytic Philosophy (ECAP9)  
*Higher-Order Disagreements in Social Ontology*
- University of Flensburg, Workshop on Political Philosophy  
*Citizen Responsibility*
- 2016 Umeå University, Workshop on Responsibility in Complex Systems  
*Responsibility Grounded: What are the Causal Foundations?*
- Universiteit Gent, Workshop on Agency and Causation  
*Responsibility Grounded: What are the Causal Foundations?*
- Collective Intentionality X, Den Haag  
*Responsibility in Hierarchical Groups*
- Schloss Dagstuhl, Workshop on Engineering Artificial Agents  
Agency Tutorial
- 2015 Future of Just War Theory, Conference, US Naval Academy  
*Responsibility for Killer Robots*
- VI. Meetings on Ethics and Political Philosophy, University of Minho  
*Responsibility for Killer Robots*
- Society for the Metaphysics of Science (SMS), Rutgers University  
*A Solution to the Problem of Profligate Omissions*
- German Analytic Philosophy Association (GAP.9), Osnabrück  
*A Solution to the Problem of Profligate Omissions*
- 2014 APA Eastern Division Meeting, Philadelphia  
*How the ‘It’s a Shorthand’ Argument Against Collective Actions Fails*
- Collective Intentionality IX, Indiana University Bloomington  
*Agency as Difference-Making: A Propositional Framework*

2013 European Network on Social Ontology (ENSO III), Helsinki  
*Semantic Analysis and Group Agency*

### **Departmental Seminars**

2017 Stanford University, Political Theory Workshop  
*Citizen Responsibility*

Humboldt-Universität Berlin, Departmental Seminar  
*Responsibility in Hierarchical Groups*

2015 Duke Moral Attitudes and Decision-Making Lab (MAD LAB)  
*A Solution to the Problem of Profligate Omissions*

## **TEACHING**

### **Syracuse University**

Since 2021 Public Administration and Democracy

2020 Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Autonomous Systems and Artificial Intelligence

Since 2019 Ethics of Emerging Technologies  
Philosophy and Ethics of Data Science

### **Apple University**

2018 Reasoning About What is Right (with Joshua Cohen)

### **Humboldt-Universität Berlin**

2017 Political Ontology: State, Law, and Gender  
Authority, Democracy and Freedom: Themes in Political Philosophy  
(co-taught with Gabriel Wollner)

2016 Philosophy of the Social Sciences  
Transformative Experience and Hard Choices

### **Bayreuth University**

2015 Equality

2014 Agency, Responsibility, and Artificial Intelligence

2013 Ethics of Markets

2012 Ethical Aspects of Policy Evaluation and Cost-Benefit-Analysis

### **London School of Economics (as teaching assistant)**

2013 Business Ethics

2012 Philosophy of the Social Sciences

2011 Reason, Knowledge and Values



## **SERVICE**

### **Departmental Service**

Search committee for faculty position, Syracuse University (2021, 2022)  
Search committee departmental chair, Syracuse University (2021)  
Postdoc coordinator, Humboldt-Universität Department of Philosophy (2016-17)  
Referee and selection committee work for Humboldt Graduate School (2016-17)

### **Event Organization**

2023 Manuscript Workshop on Ethical Foundations of Data Science, Syracuse University  
2021 Interdisciplinary Virtual Workshop on Ethics of AI  
Workshop on teaching ethics and data science at Hertie School Berlin  
2020 Interdisciplinary Virtual Workshop on Ethics of AI  
2019 Breakout session at Stanford HAI conference on “Ethics, Policy & Governance”  
Interdisciplinary Workshop ‘Coding Caring: Ethics for an Intimate AI’  
2018 Industry workshops on ethics processes in tech companies  
2017 Symposium at European Congress of Analytic Philosophy (ECAP 9)  
Section on Philosophy and Economics at 24<sup>th</sup> meeting of DGPhil  
Workshop on agency and moral responsibility at HU Berlin  
2016 Workshop on responsibility and artificial intelligence at ZIF Bielefeld  
2013-17 Annual graduate conferences between LSE–Bayreuth and HU–KCL

### **Reviewer**

ACM FAccT Conference, Area Chair (2023)  
AI and Ethics (2020, 2021, 2022)  
AI & Society (2020, 2021, 2023)  
American Journal of Political Science (2020)  
American Philosophical Quarterly (2016)  
American Political Science Review (2022)  
Analysis (2017, 2018, 2020)  
Australasian Journal of Philosophy (2017, 2018, 2019)  
Canadian Journal of Philosophy (2023)  
Communications of the ACM (2022)  
Dialectica (2017)  
Dutch Research Council (NWO) Grant reviewer (2023)  
Economics and Philosophy (2015, 2016)  
Erkenntnis (2019, 2020)  
Ethical Theory and Moral Practice (2022)  
Ethics and Information Technology (2018)  
Ethics and International Affairs (2020)  
Handbook of Governance and Data Science (2023)  
Hypatia (2017)

Journal of Applied Philosophy (2016, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2023)  
Journal of Business Ethics (2017)  
Journal of Ethics (2020)  
Journal of Institutional Economics (2019)  
Journal of Political Philosophy (2017)  
Journal of Social Ontology (2014, 2017)  
Journal of Social Philosophy (2017)  
Journal of the American Philosophical Association (2023)  
Moral Philosophy and Politics (2017)  
National Science Foundation (2019, 2020)  
NeurIPS Conference, Meta-reviewer for ethical impact (2020)  
Oxford Bibliographies (2017)  
Oxford University Press (2020, 2021, 2022, 2023)  
Philosophical Quarterly (2019)  
Philosophical Studies (2021, 2022)  
Public Management Review (2022)  
Science and Engineering Ethics (2019, 2020, 2021)  
Synthese (2017, 2019, 2023)  
Theoria (2020)  
Thought (2019)  
Zeitschrift für praktische Philosophie (2016)