

CSULA Emeriti Faculty Biography

Name: Ann Garry

Department: Philosophy

Academic rank: Professor

Year appointed: 1969

Year retired: 2006

FERP years: 2006-2011

City of residence: Beverly Hills

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Web page: <http://www.calstatela.edu/faculty/agarry/>

Birth Place: Bristol, VA

Birth Year: 1943

Marital status: Married

Spouse/partner: Robert Ashen

Family information: David Ashen-Garry, Ceth Ashen, Jon Ashen. Ceth has three children; Jon has one. Dave has returned to LA after working 9 years and is doing an M.S. in Chemistry at Cal State LA.



Son Dave's wedding in Japan with stepdaughter Ceth, Dave, and Bob



In Australia with Bob.

Colleges or Universities Attended:

Monmouth College (Illinois)
University of Chicago
University of Maryland

Year	Degree
1965	BA
1966	MA
1970	PhD

Teaching Experience:

Institution

Cal State LA
UCLA, intermittently
USC, intermittently
University of Waterloo (Ont.), visiting feminist chair
University of Tokyo, Fulbright professor

From	To
1969	2011
1976	2008
1978	1988
Fall 2011	
Spring 2007	

Courses taught:

The full range of philosophy courses, but most frequently in the last couple of decades: Feminist Philosophy (on a number of topics and levels), Philosophical Method and Writing, Philosophy of

Law, Bioethics, seminars on Wittgenstein and on various topics in epistemology that combined feminist, critical race theory, and/or traditional philosophy.

Scholarly/Creative Activity:

I entered graduate school in philosophy in the heyday of analytic philosophy (in English-speaking countries). This meant specializing in epistemology, metaphysics (only of an analytic variety), philosophy of mind, philosophy of language, etc. (even ethics was about the language of ethics). As the student movement, anti-war movement, feminism, and in general the “New Left” started to impact not only my life, but also the academy in general, I gradually moved away from my teaching/research original interests to topics that spoke more directly to our real lives.

With this fortunate timing, I became part of the “ground floor” of feminist philosophy – trying to figure out what it was, how to teach it, developing materials for teaching, establishing institutions such as journals and organizations to support it, rethinking philosophy in general from a feminist point of view (understanding the ways in which it had been/still is gendered as male while proclaiming objectivity and universality). Most recently I’ve been writing in ways that reflect the fact that oppression (and privilege) by race/ethnicity, gender, class, sexuality, and so forth are all intertwined and mutually reinforcing.

Administrative, Business, or Professional Experience:

Agency or Company

Acting Director, Special Academic Programs, CSU, Northridge	1989-1990
Administrative Fellow, CSU System, San Jose State University	1988-1989
Cal State LA administration:	
Philosophy Department Chair, 4 different terms, intermittently	1982-2006
Founding Director, Center for the Study of Genders and Sexualities	2002-2004

Awards, Honors, Professional Recognition:

- Fulbright Foundation Fellowship, University of Tokyo 2007
- American Council of Learned Societies, Senior Fellowship 1992-1993

Campus awards:

- Distinguished Woman Award, CSU, Los Angeles 2002
- President’s Distinguished Professor Award, CSU, Los Angeles 1999-2000
- Outstanding Professor Award, CSU, Los Angeles 1990-1991

Citations of Selected Publications, Presentations and/or Creative Activities:

- It’s best to look at the CV linked to my university website.
<http://www.calstatela.edu/faculty/agarry/cv.pdf>

A few of my personal favorites are:

- “Who Is Included? Intersectionality, Metaphors and the Multiplicity of Gender,” in *Out from the Shadows: Analytical Feminist Contributions to Traditional Philosophy*, eds. A. Superson and S. Crasnow. New York: Oxford University Press, 2012. [A slightly shorter version was published under the title “Intersectionality, Metaphors and the Multiplicity of Gender,” in *Hypatia: A Journal of Feminist Philosophy* 26:4 (Fall 2011): 826-50.]
- “Analytic Feminism,” *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*, substantially revised 2012 (originally published 2004). <http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/femapproach-analytic/>

- “Sex, Lies, and Pornography,” in *Ethics in Practice*, 2nd ed., ed. H. La Follette. Malden, MA: Blackwell, 2001, pp. 344-355. Reprinted multiple times.
- *Women, Knowledge and Reality*, 2nd ed., edited with M. Pearsall. New York: Routledge, 1996.
- "A Minimally Decent Philosophical Method? Analytic Philosophy and Feminism," *Hypatia: A Journal of Feminist Philosophy* 10:3 (Summer 1995):7-30.
- "Why Are Love and Sex Philosophically Interesting?" *Metaphilosophy* 11 (April 1980): 165-177. Reprinted various places.

University Service:

Too numerous (and depressing) to list, so some of my personal favorites: chairing the General Education Subcommittee in the 1990s during GE revision; chairing the executive committee that formed the College of Arts and Letters in 1984; chairing the “Task Force on Changing the Academic Calendar Task Force” 2001 (yeah, right); being part of the creation and every revision of the Women’s Studies program from the 1970s through the early 2000s; being part of the group that founded the Women’s Resource Center in the 1970s and wrote the initial draft of guidelines on counteracting sexism and other discrimination in RTP decisions; helping to create the upper-division GE themes in the 1980s; and, finally, hiring my wonderful colleagues in philosophy. One of my most humorous moments was in the 1980s when I was chair of EPC: when I asked Ed Goldberg to stop speaking (trust me, I had a reason), he told me that if I wanted him not to continue to speak I’d have to “throw him out of the room.” The laughter alone sufficed.

Personal commentary:

I came to Cal State LA in 1969, having never been to California at all (I was hired after Don Burrill spoke to me on the phone!) Not only was I just turning 26, I didn’t even realize I was an Anglo. Because I applied to departments near the all law schools to which my at-the-time husband applied, I never dreamed that I would end up spending my career here. Admittedly I’ve left from time to time to teach at other places on visiting appointments or to take fellowships, but Cal State is my home. For all that we rightly complain about, I find that compared to my colleagues who teach in more privileged environments, we have concrete and important advantages: our work is appreciated by students (they don’t feel “entitled” to our every service); we never have to worry that we are wasting our time teaching; our “tower” is certainly not “ivory”; we can easily see changes that our students make after working with us and with each other. Many professions we could have chosen (which would have earned us higher salaries, but not a higher percentage of retirement pay!) could not come close in satisfaction to what I’ve had to opportunity to do at Cal State LA. I really treasure the last four decades.

My feminist work is the other aspect of the last four decades that has meant the most to me. I’ve always felt lucky to have been young when I was—and not just for best days of rock and roll and being able to afford a nice house in LA. I had the opportunity to work with other feminists in and out of the academy to develop the theories and build the structures that help to advance the interests of women and other marginalized groups in the U.S. Of course, it’s not yet a “post-feminist” world.

Since I stopped FERPing in 2011, I had a cushy visiting feminist philosophy chair at the University of Waterloo (near Toronto) and have applied for another Fulbright. I also play even more tennis than before and hope to keep traveling with my more flexible schedule, including taking our grandchildren on trips. One of the nicest things I found this summer (2012) is that I skipped the anxious moment—“Oh my God, it’s September and I haven’t finished x, y, and z.” I thought instead with no sense of panic, “What do you know? It’s already September.” I suspect that my professional activities will change with the years, but at this point I am still doing everything *except* teaching but with relaxed deadlines. Word manages to get out that I’ve retired, so many requests based on, “Oh, Ann will now have time to do ...” are coming my way. The ones I’m accepting, such as being an editor of the feminist section of *The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*, are very enjoyable.

Date completed: September 2012