

# RAINER EBERT

## *Curriculum Vitae*

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### ACADEMIC POSITIONS

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| 2020-2021 | <b>Visiting Research Fellow</b><br>Centre de recherche en éthique, Canada       |
| 2017-2019 | <b>Lecturer of Philosophy</b><br>University of Dar es Salaam (UDSM), Tanzania   |
| 2016-2017 | <b>Postdoctoral Research Fellow</b><br>University of Johannesburg, South Africa |
| Fall 2016 | <b>Adjunct Professor of Philosophy</b><br>Lone Star College-Tomball, USA        |
| 2016-2017 | <b>Visiting Scholar</b><br>Rice University, USA                                 |

### EDUCATION

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| May 2016  | <b>Doctor of Philosophy, Philosophy</b><br>Rice University, USA<br><br>Thesis: <i>The Wrongness of Killing</i><br>Committee: George Sher (chair), Baruch Brody, and Cary Wolfe |
| Dec. 2014 | <b>Master of Arts, Philosophy</b><br>Rice University, USA  |
| Jun. 2009 | <b>Diplom</b> ( $\approx$ BSc + MSc), <b>Physics</b><br>Heidelberg University, Germany   |

### AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

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Applied Ethics, Moral Theory, Social and Political Philosophy

### AREAS OF COMPETENCE

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Metaphysics, Epistemology, Logic, Critical Thinking

## **PUBLICATIONS**

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### **ARTICLES IN PEER-REVIEWED PHILOSOPHY JOURNALS**

“Are humans more equal than other animals? An evolutionary argument against exclusively human dignity,” *Philosophia: Philosophical Quarterly of Israel* (forthcoming)

“Mental-Threshold Egalitarianism: How Not to Ground Full Moral Status,” *Social Theory and Practice* 44 (2018), pp. 75-93

“Good to die,” *Diacrítica* 27 (2013), pp. 139-156

“The Concept of Human Dignity in German and Kenyan Constitutional Law” (with Reginald M. J. Oduor), *Thought and Practice: A Journal of the Philosophical Association of Kenya* 4 (2012), pp. 43-73

“Innocent Threats and the Moral Problem of Carnivorous Animals” (with Tibor R. Machan), *Journal of Applied Philosophy* 29 (2012), pp. 146-159

### **EDITED BOOKS**

Rainer Ebert & Anteneh Roba (eds.), *Africa and Her Animals: Philosophical and Practical Perspectives* (Pretoria: University of South Africa Press, 2018)

Rainer Ebert *et al.* (eds.), *Tierrechte – Eine interdisziplinäre Herausforderung* (Erlangen: Harald Fischer Verlag, 2007)

### **BOOK CHAPTER**

“The African university and the moral status of non-human animals” (with Workineh Kelbessa), in: R. Ebert & A. Roba (eds.), *Africa and Her Animals* (Pretoria: University of South Africa Press, 2018), pp. 67-81

### **TRANSLATION**

Carl Cohen, “Haben Tiere Rechte?”, in: R. Ebert *et al.* (eds.), *Tierrechte* (Erlangen: Harald Fischer Verlag, 2007), pp. 89-104

### **BOOK REVIEWS**

“Review of Kurt Remele’s *Die Würde des Tieres ist unantastbar: Eine neue christliche Tierethik*,” *The Journal of Animal Ethics* 9 (Spring 2019), pp. 113-114

“Review of Alasdair Cochrane’s *Animal Rights Without Liberation*,” *The Journal of Animal Ethics* 5 (Spring 2015), pp. 114-116

“Review of Fritz Mauthner’s *Die Sprache*,” *Copula: Jahangirnagar University Studies in Philosophy* 30 (June 2013), pp. 65-67

## SELECTED OTHER PUBLICATIONS

“Mohandas K. Gandhi and Tom Regan: Advocates for Animal Rights,” *Gandhi Marg Quarterly* 38 (2017), pp. 395-403

“On What a Good Argument Is, in Science and Elsewhere,” *Dhaka University Journal on Journalism, Media and Communication Studies* 1 (May 2011), pp. 17-26

“Weierstrass meets Enriques” (with Andreas P. Braun, Arthur Hebecker & Roberto Valandro), *Journal of High Energy Physics* 2010 (February 2010), pp. 1-28

More than 50 travel articles and columns on contemporary moral, social, and political issues in print and online newspapers in Australia, Bangladesh, Denmark, Ethiopia, Germany, Ghana, India, Nigeria, Pakistan, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Uganda, the United Kingdom, and the United States

## PRESENTATIONS

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### CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

“Are human beings more equal than other animals? An evolutionary argument against exclusively human dignity”

Nov. 2019 Twentieth Asian Bioethics Conference (ABC20), Bangladesh

“Africa and her animals”

Sep. 2019 3<sup>rd</sup> Africa Animal Welfare Conference, United Nations Economic Commission for Africa Headquarters, Ethiopia

“What Makes Killing Wrong?”

Oct. 2016 Philosophy Spring Colloquium, Wits University, South Africa

“The Wrongness of Killing Animals”

Mar. 2016 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Essays of Significance Conference, University of Windsor, Canada

May 2015 *La libération animale, quarante ans plus tard*, Université Rennes 2, France

Jan. 2015 3<sup>rd</sup> Minding Animals Conference, Jawaharlal Nehru University, India

“Good to Die”

May 2013 IV Meetings on Ethics and Political Philosophy, University of Minho, Portugal

“Innocent Threats and the Moral Problem of Carnivorous Animals”

Jul. 2012 2<sup>nd</sup> Minding Animals Conference, Utrecht University, the Netherlands

Oct. 2011 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual European Conference for Critical Animal Studies, Charles University, Czech Republic

Apr. 2011 Animal Ethics Graduate Student Conference (“Ignored Perspectives in Animal Ethics”), Colorado State University, USA

### **INVITED DEPARTMENT TALKS**

#### “Ethics after Darwin”

Jul. 2020 Department of Philosophy, Lagos State University, Nigeria

Nov. 2018 Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies, University of Nairobi, Kenya

Jan. 2018 Department of Psychology, Jagannath University, Bangladesh

#### “How to Think Critically About Issues of Morality”

Aug. 2017 Department of Philosophy, Jahangirnagar University, Bangladesh

#### “Killing People and Killing Animals”

Aug. 2017 Dev Centre for Philosophical Studies, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh

Aug. 2017 Department of Islamic History & Culture, Jagannath University, Bangladesh

Aug. 2017 Department of Philosophy, Jagannath University, Bangladesh

#### “What Makes Killing Wrong?”

Sept. 2016 Department of Philosophy, University of Johannesburg, South Africa

#### “The Wrongness of Killing Animals”

Jan. 2015 Hindu College, University of Delhi, India

Jan. 2015 Department of Philosophy, University of Delhi, India

#### “An Introduction to the Philosophy of Animal Rights”

Jan. 2015 Department of Psychology, Jagannath University, Bangladesh

#### “Why Animals Have Rights”

Aug. 2013 Department of Anthropology, Jagannath University, Bangladesh

Jul. 2013 Department of Philosophy, Jahangirnagar University, Bangladesh

#### “The Value of Death”

Jul. 2012 Department of Philosophy, Jahangirnagar University, Bangladesh

#### “Human Dignity in Contemporary Law, and as a Measure of Human Development”

Jan. 2012 Department of International Relations, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh

#### “The Concept of Human Dignity in German Constitutional Law”

Oct. 2011 UNESCO Chair on Philosophy and Critical Thinking, Mohammed V University at Agdal, Morocco

“Is Human Dignity an Obstacle to Moral Progress?”

Jul. 2011      Center for Human Rights and Peace, University of Nairobi, Kenya

“Why Reliabilism Is Doomed to Fail”

Jul. 2009      Center for Excellence, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh

#### **SELECTED OTHER PRESENTATIONS**

“The Wrongness of Killing”

Apr. 2016      Central Texas Philosophy Workshop, Texas State University, USA

“Ethics after Darwin: Completing the Revolution”

Mar. 2016      Work in Progress Series, Department of Philosophy, Rice University, USA

“The Concept of Human Dignity in German Constitutional Law”

Aug. 2012      South Asian Institute of Advanced Legal and Human Rights Studies (SAILS),  
Bangladesh

“The Moral Problem of Carnivorous Animals”

Mar. 2010      Café Philosophie, Stuttgart, Germany

“The History of Animal Ethics”

Apr. 2006      Interdisciplinary Lectures on Animal Rights, Heidelberg University, Germany

Several presentations on string theory, ethics, epistemology & social work at Houston Community College, James Madison High School in Houston, Anushandhitshu Chokro, the UDSM Philosophy Club, the Humanities Journal Club at Heidelberg University, and St. Bonifatius in Heidelberg

#### **GRANTS AND AWARDS**

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2019              Bangladesh Bioethics Society Award  
“In appreciation of efforts to promote bioethics in Bangladesh”

2016-2017        Global Excellence and Stature (GES) Fellowship  
University of Johannesburg

2010-2015        Graduate School Fellowship  
Rice University

2010              Travel Grant to attend the UVU Animal Ethics Conference  
Culture & Animals Foundation

Nine travel grants from Rice University’s HRC, GSA, and Department of Philosophy

## **TEACHING**

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### **COURSE INSTRUCTOR**

DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY & RELIGIOUS STUDIES, UNIVERSITY OF DAR ES SALAAM, TANZANIA

2<sup>nd</sup> Sem. 2018/19      Philosophy of Mind and Cognitive Science  
Applied Ethics

1<sup>st</sup> Sem. 2018/19      Philosophy of Religion  
Social Ethics and Political Ethics (graduate level)

2<sup>nd</sup> Sem. 2017/18      Applied Ethics

1<sup>st</sup> Sem. 2017/18      Business Ethics  
Methods of Philosophy  
Social Ethics and Political Ethics (graduate level)

DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY, LONE STAR COLLEGE-TOMBALL, USA

Fall 2016              Introduction to Philosophy

### **TEACHING ASSISTANT**

DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY, RICE UNIVERSITY, USA

Spring 2015            Social and Political Philosophy (George Sher)

Fall 2013              Contemporary Moral Issues (George Sher)

Fall 2012              Contemporary Moral Issues (George Sher)

Fall 2011              Contemporary Moral Issues (Gwen Bradford)

DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY, HEIDELBERG UNIVERSITY, GERMANY

Summer 2008          Introduction to Symbolic Logic (Miriam Wildenauer)

Winter 2007          Introduction to Symbolic Logic (Miriam Wildenauer)

## **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

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### **DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE**

2017-2019              Postgraduate Coordinator, Master of Arts program in Ethics of  
Governance and Public Service, University of Dar es Salaam

## **CONFERENCE & WORKSHOP ORGANIZING**

- Dec. 2019            Organizer, *Tom Regan Workshop*, Jagannath University
- 2008-2010           Organizer, *Humanities Journal Club*, Heidelberg University
- Jul. 2008            Organizer, *Libertarianism Workshop* with Tibor R. Machan (including a public talk on human rights issues in Germany), Department of Philosophy, Heidelberg University
- 2005-2006           Initiator & Co-organizer, *Interdisciplinary Lecture Series on Animal Rights* (received €6,200 in grants), Heidelberg University

## **REFEREEING & EDITING**

- 2016-2017           Guest editor for two special issues on animal ethics, *Bangladesh Journal of Bioethics* (vol. 7, issue 3 & vol. 8, issue 1)
- 2010-present        Referee for the *Journal of Value Inquiry*, the *Bangladesh Journal of Bioethics*, *Diametros*, the *South African Journal of Philosophy*, and *Bioethics*

## **SELECTED PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS & AFFILIATIONS**

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- 2019-present        International Research Associate, Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies, University of Dar es Salaam
- 2018-present        Fellow, Oxford Centre for Animal Ethics
- 2016-present        Member, Minding Animals
- 2015-present        International Life Member, Bangladesh Bioethics Society
- 2012-2018           Associate Fellow, Oxford Centre for Animal Ethics
- 2005-2007           Founding Chairman, Interdisziplinäre Arbeitsgemeinschaft Tierethik, Heidelberg University
- Organized more than twenty public lectures and two panel discussions with speakers from six countries

## **VOLUNTEER SERVICE & COMMUNITY OUTREACH**

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- May 2016            Judge, Madison High School Science Fair
- 2016-present        Coach & Judge, Houston High School Ethics Bowl

- Jan. 2015                    1-hour live radio interview about veganism, *Radio Shadhin 92.4 FM*
- Dec. 2014                    30-minute TV interview about animal ethics & vegetarianism, *SA TV*
- 2013-2018                    Sneha Foundation  
 Raised more than €18,000 for children orphaned by the 2013 Rana Plaza collapse & contributed as a consultant to educational projects in Bangladesh
- 2013-present                Gorai Student Forum (GSF)  
 Raised around \$3,000 and consulted for rural development & health initiatives in Kushtia in western Bangladesh
- 2009-2015                    Children’s Village Haluaghat  
 Worked with the Ekmattra Society to provide housing & education to street children in Dhaka & raised funds for the construction of the Ekmattra-DBBL Academy, a children’s village in northern Bangladesh

Several interviews in newspapers in Bangladesh, Germany, and India

## REFERENCES

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### **George Sher**

*Herbert S. Autrey Professor of Philosophy*  
 Department of Philosophy  
 Rice University, USA  
*gshe@rice.edu*

### **Thaddeus Metz**

*Professor (Research Focus)*  
 Department of Philosophy  
 University of Johannesburg, South Africa  
*tmetz@uj.ac.za*

### **Richard Grandy**

*McManis Professor Emeritus of Philosophy*  
 Department of Philosophy  
 Rice University, USA  
*rgrandy@rice.edu*

### **Peter Singer**

*Ira W. DeCamp Professor of Bioethics*  
 University Center for Human Values  
 Princeton University, USA  
*psinger@princeton.edu*

### **Gary Steiner**

*Presidential Professor of Philosophy*  
 Department of Philosophy  
 Bucknell University, USA  
*gsteiner@bucknell.edu*

### **Peter McLaughlin**

*Professor of Philosophy*  
 Department of Philosophy  
 Heidelberg University, Germany  
*Peter.McLaughlin@urz.uni-heidelberg.de*