

Dr. Richard D. Bellon
Curriculum Vitae

Associate Professor
Michigan State University
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Lyman Briggs College of Science
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Department of History
350B Old Hort
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Education:

PhD, History, University of Washington, 2000

Fields: History of Biology (Keith Benson), History of Science (Thomas Hankins), Modern Britain (George Behlmer), and Modern France (Ray Jonas)

MA, History, University of Washington, 1992

BA, History, University of Montana, 1990

Book:

A Sincere and Teachable Heart: Self-Denying Virtue in British Intellectual Life, 1736-1859. Brill: 2015.

Research articles:

“Sacrifice in Service to Truth: The Epistemic Virtues of Victorian British Science.” In *Science, Technology, and Virtues: Contemporary Perspectives*, edited by Thomas Stapleford and Emanuele Ratti, forthcoming. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2021.

“Guiding a Train of Discoveries: Charles Darwin, Charles Daubeny, and the Reception of Natural Selection, 1859-1865.” In *Natural Selection - Revisiting its Explanatory Role in Evolutionary Biology*, edited by Richard Delisle, pp. 39-71. Cham: Springer, 2021.

“There is Grandeur in This View of Newton: Charles Darwin, Isaac Newton and Victorian Conceptions of Scientific Virtue.” *Endeavour* 38 (2014): 222-34.

“Bringing Relationships Alive through Interdisciplinary Discourse (BRAID)” (co-authors Doug Luckie and Ryan Sweeder). *International Journal of Pedagogy and Curriculum* 19 (2013): 133-44.

“Darwin’s Evolutionary Botany.” In *The Cambridge Encyclopedia of Darwin and Evolutionary Thought*, edited by Michael Ruse, pp. 131-8. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2013.

“The Moral Dignity of Inductive Method and the Reconciliation of Science and Faith in Adam Sedgwick’s *Discourse*.” *Science & Education* 21 (2012): 937-58.

“The ‘BRAID’: Experiments in Stitching Together Disciplines at a Big Ten University” (co-authors Doug Luckie and Ryan Sweeder). *Journal of STEM Education* 13 (2012): 6-14.

“Inspiration in the Harness of Daily Labor: Darwin, Botany and the Triumph of Evolution, 1859-1868.” *Isis* 102 (2011): 393-420. Winner of the 2013 Derek Price/Rod Webster Prize for excellence in a research article published in its journal *Isis*.

“Charles Darwin Solves the ‘Riddle of the Flower’; or, Why Don’t Historians of Biology Know about the Birds and Bees?” *History of Science* 47 (2009): 373-406.

“Science at the Crystal Focus of the World.” In *Science in the Marketplace*, edited by Bernard Lightman and Aileen Fyfe, pp. 301-35. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2007.

“Joseph Hooker Takes a ‘Fixed Post’: Transmutation and the ‘Present Unsatisfactory State of Systematic Botany,’ 1844-60.” *Journal of the History of Biology* 39 (2006): 1-39.

“A Question of Merit: John Hutton Balfour, Joseph Hooker and the ‘Concussion’ over the Edinburgh Chair of Botany.” *Studies in History and Philosophy of Biological and Biomedical Sciences*, 36 (2005): 25-54.

“The Great Question in Agitation: George Bentham and the Origin of Species.” *Archives of Natural History*, 30 (2003): 282-97.

“Joseph Hooker’s Ideal for a Professional Man of Science.” *Journal of the History of Biology*, 34 (2001): 51-82.

Editorial Work:

Co-editor (with Don Opitz and Ken Corbett) of *The Correspondence of John Tyndall, vol. 16 (January 1878 to November 1881)*. Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press, forthcoming 2023.

Co-editor (with Joseph Martin) of *Endeavour*, 2015-2018

Supervising Editor for Botany, *The Dictionary of Nineteenth-Century British Scientists*, Bernard Lightman (general editor), 4 vols. Bristol: Thoemmes Press, 2004.

Grants:

Virtues of Biological Research: Moral Behavior at the Intersection of Science and Religion, 1830-2014. (PI). Uses and Abuses of Biology Grants Programme, the Faraday Institute, St. Edmund’s College, University of Cambridge. Award: £48,424 (\$77,000). Start Date: 1 September 2013. Expired: 31 August 2014.

Patience and Panoramas: the Moral Status of Inductive Science in Victorian Britain. (PI). Michigan State University HARP development grant. Award: \$22,161. Start Date: 1 August 2012. Expired: 30 June 2013.

BRAID 2.0: Bringing Relationships Alive through Interdisciplinary Discourse. (co-PI; PI: Ryan Sweeder; co-PIs Doug Luckie and Elizabeth Simmons). National Science Foundation award number: 1022754. NSF Program: CCLI-Type 2 (Expansion). Award: \$249959. Start Date: 15 August 2010. Expires: 31 July 2015.

Scholarship and Teaching Awards:

History of Science Society’s 2013 Derek Price/Rod Webster Prize for excellence in a research article published in its journal *Isis*

Award for Outstanding Service to MSU Study Abroad. 2012 International Awards Ceremony, Michigan State University.

Recipient of Honorary Faculty Certificate from the Lyman Briggs College Graduating Class of 2012 for dedication to the enrichment of the Briggs experience

Articles (not peer reviewed):

“Emotional Comfort and Theoretical Necessity: Sex and Gender in the Age of Darwin” [essay book review]. *Historical Studies in the Natural Sciences* 48 (2018): 246-257.

“Higgledy-Piggledy in the Planetarium.” *Great Lake Planetarium Association Conference Proceedings* (2016): 1-3.

“Introducing *In Vivo*” (co-author Joseph Martin). *Endeavour* 40 (2016): 139-40.

“Virtual scientific travel in Victorian London.” *Viewpoint: Magazine of the British Society for the History of Science* no. 107 (June 2015): 11-12.

- “Saints and Sinners: Sir Richard Owen.” *Bulletin of The Royal College of Surgeons of England* 95 (2013): 170-71.
- “Darwin: The Triumph of Evolutionary Biology, Simplified: a Review of Darwin at the American Museum of Natural History.” *Museums & Social Issues*, 1 (2006): 110-119.
- “BSHS Annual Meeting, University of Leeds, 15-17 July 2005.” *British Society for the History of Science Newsletter* no. 78 (Oct 2005): 11-13.
- “John Hutton Balfour,” “James Bateman,” “Robert Graham,” “Richard Brinsley Hinds,” “Frances Hooker,” “John Leifchild,” “William Lauder Lindsay,” “William Ramsay McNab,” and “John Ruskin,” entries in *The Dictionary of Nineteenth-Century British Scientists*, 4 vols., ed. Bernard Lightman et al. Bristol: Thoemmes Press, 2004.
- “Hooker, Joseph Dalton, 1817-1911,” in *Reader’s Guide to the History of Science*, ed. Arne Hessenbruch (Chicago: Fitzroy Dearborn, 2000), pp. 348-9.
- “A Flawed Perfection: An Essay Review of *Huxley: From Devil’s Discipline to Evolution’s High Priest* by Adrian Desmond.” *History and Philosophy of the Life Sciences* 21 (1999): 111-6.

Book Reviews:

- Wallace, Darwin, and the Origin of Species* by James T. Costa. *Isis* 108 (2017): 463-4.
- The Narrative of the Beagle Voyage, 1831-1836*, edited by Katharine Anderson, and *Journal de Bord [Diary] du Voyage du Beagle [1831-1836]* by Charles Darwin and translated by Christiane Bernard and Marie-Thérèse Blanchon. *Isis* 105 (2014): 852-3.
- Darwin Studies: A Theorist and His Theories in their Context* by M.J.S. Hodge. *History and Philosophy of the Life Sciences* 35 (2013): 116-7.
- The Cambridge Companion to Darwin*, 2nd ed., edited by Jonathan Hodge and Gregory Radick. *Isis* 102 (2011): 778-9.
- Owen’s Apes and Darwin’s Bulldog: Beyond Darwinism and Christianity* by Christopher Cosans. *Journal of the History of Biology* 44 (2011): 595-8.
- Of Apes and Ancestors: Evolution, Christianity and the Oxford Debate* by Ian Hesketh. *Isis* 101 (2010): 897-8.
- Imperial Nature: Joseph Hooker and the Practices of Victorian Science* by Jim Endersby. *Journal of British Studies* 49 (2010): 200-2.
- Charles Darwin* by Michael Ruse. *Isis* 100 (2009): 430-1.
- Before Darwin: Reconciling God and Nature* by Keith Thomson. *Isis* 99 (2008): 190-1.
- On the Nature of the Limbs: A Discourse* by Richard Owen, edited by Ron Amundson. *Journal of the History of Biology* 41 (2008): 763-6.
- The Tropics and the Traveling Gaze: India, Landscape, and Science 1800-1856* by David Arnold. *Journal of the History of Biology* 40 (2007): 577-9.
- “Defending Darwinism.” A Review of *Darwinism and Its Discontents* by Michael Ruse. *American Scientist* 95:2 (March-April 2007): 168-171.
- The Victorian Scientist: The Growth of a Profession* by Jack Meadows. *Isis* 97 (2006): 174-175.
- Evolution and “the Sex Problem”: American Narratives During the Eclipse of Darwinism* by Bert Bender. *Isis* 97 (2006): 359–360
- British Naturalists in Qing China* by Fa-Ti Fan. *Victorian Studies* 47 (2005): 487-9.
- Creationism and Scriptural Geology, 1817–1857*, 7 vols. edited by John Lynch. *Journal of the History of Biology, Journal of the History of Biology* 38 (2005): 397-400.
- Darwin’s Mentor: John Stevens Henslow, 1796-1861* by S.M. Walters and E.A. Stow. *Victorian Studies* 46 (2004): 508.

Hewett Cottrell Watson: Victorian Plant Ecologist and Evolutionist by Frank N. Egerton. *Nature* 423 (2003): 589.

Evolutionary Theory and Victorian Culture by Martin Fichman. *Journal of the History of Biology* 36 (2003): 601-603.

Evolution's Workshop: God and Science on the Galápagos by Edward J. Larson. *Quarterly Review of Biology* 77 (2002): 438-9.

Genetic Prehistory in Selective Breeding by Roger J. Wood and Vítěslav Orel. *Journal of the History of Biology* 35 (2002): 402-4.

The Man Who Found the Missing Link: Eugène Dubois and His Lifelong Quest to Prove Darwin Right by Pat Shipman. *Quarterly Review of Biology* 77 (2002): 44.

Victorian Sensation: The Extraordinary Publication, Reception, and Secret Authorship of Vestiges of the Natural History of Creation by James A. Secord. *History and Technology*, 17 (2001): 378-81.

Victorian Science in Context, edited by Bernard Lightman. *Journal of the History of Biology* 32 (1999): 575-7.

Dissertation:

Joseph Dalton Hooker and the Progress of Botany, 1845-1865. University of Washington, 2000.

Professional Service:

Editorial Board of “Evolutionary Biology – New Perspectives on its Development” (book series from Springer), 2019-present

Editorial Board of *Endeavour*, 2019-present.

Editorial Board of *Journal of the History of Biology*, 2016-present.

Editorial Board of the journal *History and Philosophy of the Life Sciences*, 2012-present.

Price/Webster Prize Committee, History of Science Society, 2015-2017 (chair 2017).

Review Panel for Humanities and Arts Research Program (HARP), Office of the Vice President for Research and Graduate Studies, Michigan State University, 2015-present

Selected Lectures, Conference and Public Presentations:

“Darwin's Considerable Revolution” Talk to joint meeting of the Center for Inquiry Michigan & Muslimish, Arab American Museum Annex, Dearborn, 12 February 2020.

“Darwin Outflanks His Enemies: Botany and the Triumph of Evolution, 1859-1882.” Invited keynote address to Darwin Day at the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences, Raleigh. 9 November 2019.

“Promoting Standards Rather than Rules.” Spring Conference on Student Learning and Success, Michigan State University, East Lansing. 6 May 2019.

“Common to Speak Of: The Hierarchy of Virtue and Vice in Nineteenth-Century Britain.” Invited talk to conference on Science, Technology, and the Good Life. University of Notre Dame, Centre for Theology, Science, & Human Flourishing, 5 April 2018.

“Vice in the Moral Imagination of Nineteenth-Century Britain.” Invited plenary talk to conference on Epistemic Vices: Continuities and Discontinuities, 1600-2000. Leiden University, Institute for History, 26 January 2018.

“On Writing: Craft and Profession”: Roundtable with Polly Winsor, Sally Gregory Kohlstedt, Jane Maienschein, and Joe Martin. Annual Meeting of the History of Science Society, Toronto, 10 November 2017. Organizer.

- “A Hodge-Podge of Philosophers and the Oxford Malignants: Science and High-Church Theology in the Age of Darwin.” Invited talk to History and Philosophy of Science Program at the University of Notre Dame, 30 March 2017.
- “John Herschel, Charles Darwin, and the ‘Mystery of Mysteries’.” MSU Abrams Planetarium Astronomical Horizons Lecture, 18 February 2016; public lecture for the MSU Science Festival, 16 April 2016; invited lecture to Kalamazoo Astronomical Society, 6 May 2015; invited lecture to the Great Lakes Planetarium Association, Flint, MI, 21 October 2016; invited talk at the Digital Visualization Theater, University of Notre Dame, 29 March 2017; invited lecture to Grand Rapids Amateur Astronomical Association, Grand Rapids, MI, 19 October 2017.
- “A Hodge-Podge of Philosophers and the Oxford Malignants: Science and High-Church Theology in the Age of Darwin.” Meeting of the International Society for the History, Philosophy, and Social Studies of Biology, Montréal, Québec, 7 July 2015.
- “Blue Sky Science: What is the Role of Curiosity in Science?” Panel discussion at the Michigan State University Science Festival, 18 April 2015, with Richard Lenski, Zachary Kohley, Hans Schroder and Wendy Johnson.
- “What Happened to the Virtues of the Scientific Community?” Invited talk to Uses and Abuses of Biology Dissemination Workshop, Christ’s College, Cambridge, 21 September 2014.
- “Moral Behaviour at the Intersection of Science and Religion, 1830-2014.” Invited talk to Uses and Abuses of Biology Workshop, Christ’s College, Cambridge, 22 September 2013.
- “Patience, Humility and the Moral Significance of Scientific Practice.” An invited presentation to the panel “Science and Religion: Beyond the Polemics” for the MSU Science Festival, East Lansing, MI, 18 April 2013.
- “Charles Darwin Outflanks His Enemies.” Invited public lecture for the MSU Science Festival, East Lansing, MI, 13 April 2013.
- “Adam Sedgwick, Charles Darwin and the Moral Significance of Victorian Geology.” Distinguished Lecture Series, Department of Geological Sciences, Michigan State University, invited on 15 February 2013.
- “Victorian Experimental Physiology: A Historical Case Study of Ethical Issues in Biomedical Research,” invited talk to 2011 Spectrum Health Ethics Conference: Just Because We Can, Should We? The Ethical Challenges of New Medical Technologies, Grand Rapids, MI, 16 September 2011.
- Chair of session: Travelling and Collecting in the 18th and 19th Centuries. Annual Meeting of the History of Science Society, Montréal, 6 November 2010.
- “The Moral Condition of Victorian Science: Patience, Humility and the Inductive Method.” History of Science and Technology Colloquium, University of Minnesota, invited on 15 October 2010.
- “‘Systematists Will Be Able To Pursue Their Labours As At Present’: Darwin’s Methodologically Conservative Revolution.” Annual Meeting of the History of Science Society, Phoenix, 21 November 2009. Organizer and chair of session, “Beyond Evolution vs. Special Creation: the Complexity of the Species Question in the Age of Darwin”.
- “What Naturalists Were Right to Reject Darwin’s Theory (in 1858).” Paper invited for the conference, Darwin and the Boundaries of Science, New York University, New York, NY, 17 April 2009.
- “Inspiration in the Harness of Daily Labor: Darwin, Orchids and the Triumph of Evolution, 1858-1872.” Paper invited for the conference, The Reception of Darwinism: Trans-Cultural Differences, Boston University, Boston, MA, 4 April 2009.
- “The Great Exhibition and the Inductive Quest for Panoramic Vision.” Sixth Joint Meeting of the British Society for the History of Science, the Canadian Society for the History and Philosophy of Science and the History of Science Society, Oxford, England, 6 July 2008.

- “‘A Considerable Revolution in Natural History’: the Nineteenth-Century Triumph of Evolution and Its Lessons for the Twenty-First Century.” Darwin Lecture delivered at the Michigan State University Museum, 7 February 2006.
- “Charles Darwin Outflanks His Enemies.” Annual Meeting of the History of Science Society, Minneapolis, 5 November 2005. Organizer of session, “‘A Good Body of Working Men’: Vocation and the Darwinian Revolution”.
- “On *Origin* and *Orchids*: The Making of a Scientific Revolution.” Annual Meeting of the Columbia History of Science Group, Friday Harbor, 12 March 2005
- “Popular Science at ‘the Crystal Focus of the World’.” Conference on: Popular Science: 19th-Century Sites and Experiences, York University, 2 August 2004.
- “The Victorian World as Panorama.” History of Science and Technology Colloquium, University of Minnesota, 20 September 2002.
- “George Bentham Visits the Crystal Palace.” Annual Meeting of the History of Science Society, Denver, Colorado, 9 November 2001.
- “Variability vs. Mutability: George Bentham and Joseph Hooker on the species question in the wake of the *Origin*.” Meeting to Mark the Bicentenary of the Birth of George Bentham FLS FRS (1800-1884), sponsored jointly by the Linnean Society and the Society for the History of Natural History, 23 September 2000.
- “The Professionalization of British Science: Historiographical Aspects.” Conference on Amateurs and Academics: British Natural History and Biology in the Long Nineteenth Century, sponsored by the University of Manchester’s Centre for History of Science, Technology and Medicine, 25 September 1999.
- “‘It is the Gold I Want’: Professionalization and Patronage in mid-Victorian Natural History.” Meeting of the International Society for the History, Philosophy, and Social Studies of Biology, Oaxaca, Mexico, 9 July 1999. Organizer of panel, “Forging Professional Identities in Victorian Life Science”
- “‘All the Treasures Collected By Travellers’: Indian Botanic Gardens in the Nineteenth Century.” Lecture Series Accompanying the Exhibition of Indian Botanical Watercolors, Inverleith House, Royal Botanic Gardens, Edinburgh, 15 July 1998.
- “Botanical Exploration and the Cultivation of Patronage: Joseph Dalton Hooker and India, 1849-1851.” Conference on Botany in Nineteenth-Century Britain, sponsored by the Society for the History of Natural History, Cambridge University, 9 May 1998.
- “Joseph Hooker’s Scientific Exploration in India, 1848-1851.” Annual Meeting of the History of Science Society, San Diego, California, 8 November 1997.

Previous Faculty Positions:

Visiting Assistant Professor in the Program for the History of Science and Technology at the University of Minnesota, 2001-2004

Visiting Assistant Professor in Lyman Briggs School/College at Michigan State University, 2004-2008

Professional Organizations:

Linnean Society of London, elected Fellow, 2001-
History of Science Society, 1994-