

Tushar Menon

Curriculum Vitae

Areas of Specialisation

Philosophy of Physics, Philosophy of Science.

Areas of Competence

Logic, Metaphysics, Epistemology.

Education

- 2014– **DPhil (PhD) Philosophy**, *Balliol College*, University of Oxford, Supervisors: David Wallace, Simon Saunders, Adam Caulton.
(expected 2018)
- 2013–2014 **MSt. Philosophy of Physics**, *St. Hilda's College*, University of Oxford.
- 2011–2012 **MA Life Writing**, *King's College London*, Dissertation title: The Life and Science of James Clerk Maxwell.
- 2008–2009 **MSc. Theoretical Physics**, *King's College London*, Dissertation title: An Introduction to Conformal Field Theory.
- 2005–2008 **BSc. Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics**, *St. Joseph's College*, Bangalore.

Fellowships

- 2017–2018 **Beyond Spacetime Predoctoral Fellow**, *University of Illinois, Chicago*.
- 2016 **Junior Visiting Fellow**, *University of Illinois, Chicago*.

Awards

- 2016 **Space and Time after Quantum Gravity Essay Prize.**
- 2014–2017 **British Society for the Philosophy of Science (BSPS) Doctoral Scholarship.**
- 2011–2012 **King's Alumni Bursary**, *King's College London*.
- 2008–2009 **Inlaks Scholarship.**

Papers

Peer-reviewed publications

- forthcoming **Algebraic fields and the dynamical approach to physical geometry**, *Philosophy of Science*.
- forthcoming **Clocks and Chronogeometry: Rotating spacetimes and the relativistic null hypothesis**, (with Niels Linnemann and James Read), *British Journal for the Philosophy of Science*.
- forthcoming **Taking up superspace—what would it take to be a realist about superspace?**, *Philosophy Beyond Spacetime*, eds: Nick Huggett, Baptiste Le Bihan, and Christian Wüthrich, Oxford University Press.
(Winner of the 2016 Space and Time after Quantum Gravity essay prize)

Under review

On the viability of the No Alternatives Argument, *Under review at Studies in History and Philosophy of Science*.

Regarding 'Regarding the Hole Argument', (with Thomas Møller-Nielsen and James Read) *Under review at Foundations of Physics*.

Philosophy in the public sphere

- 2017 **Strings and Stringency—A review of Richard Dawid's *String Theory and the Scientific Method***.
Cambridge Humanities Review

Teaching Experience

Lectures

- 2012 **A Proper Introduction to Quantum Mechanics**, *Course designer, presenter*, Science Forum, St. Joseph's College, Bangalore.

Tutorials (Philosophy)

- 2017 **Philosophical Logic**, *Teaching Assistant*, Wadham College, Oxford.
- 2016 **Elements of Deductive Logic**, *Tutor*, Faculty of Philosophy, Oxford.
- 2015-2016 **Introduction to Logic**, *Tutor*, Balliol College, Hertford College, Oxford.
- 2015 **Philosophy of Science**, *Tutor*, Balliol College, St. Hugh's College, Oxford.
- 2015 **Intermediate Philosophy of Physics**, *Tutor*, University College, Oxford.

Tutorials (Mathematics)

- 2011-2012 **Calculus II**, *Tutor*, King's College London.
- 2009 **Calculus II**, *Tutor*, King's College London.
- 2008 **Linear Algebra**, *Tutor*, King's College London.

Presentations and Invited talks

Invited talks

- 2018 **Desperate spacetimes call for desperate measures**, *Philosophy of Physics one-day conference at DAMTP (University of Cambridge)*.
- 2018 **Rotating spacetimes and the relativistic null hypothesis**, *Philosophy of Physics one-day conference at DAMTP (University of Cambridge)*.
- 2018 **Putting the cart before the horse: addressing the problem of pre-geometry in the dynamical approach to special relativity**, *University of Notre Dame*.
- 2018 **Supersymmetry and the philosophy of space and time**, *PoSE seminar (University of Michigan, Ann Arbor)*.
- 2017 **Of miracles: Reflections on the dynamical and geometrical approaches to general relativity**, *PoSE seminar (University of Michigan, Ann Arbor)*.
- 2017 **Debate with Richard Dawid: On the possibility of non-empirical confirmation of String Theory**, *University of Stockholm*.
- 2017 **Affine Balance: Algebraic functionalism as a guide to spacetime structure**, *Philosophy of Physics Research Seminar (University of Oxford), CamPoS Seminar (University of Cambridge)*.
- 2016 **Desperate spacetimes call for desperate measures**, *University of Geneva*.
- 2016 **Rebuilding Neurath's boat Planck by Planck**, *University of Illinois, Chicago*.

Contributed Talks and other presentations

- 2018 **On the function of spacetime**, *CUSO Workshop on spacetime functionalism (University of Geneva)*.
- 2018 **Spacetime: What is it good for?**, *Philosophy club (University of Illinois at Chicago)*.
- 2017 **Symposium: Promoting the field view of General Relativity—New insights from spin-2, emergent gravity, and the dynamical approach**, *European Philosophy of Science Association Conference (University of Exeter)*.
- 2017 **Rebuilding Neurath's boat Planck by Planck: Algebraic functionalism and the easy problem of quantum spacetime**, *Beyond Spacetime Conference, Geneva*.
- 2016 **Does a rolling stone gather nomos? A debate about laws of nature (with Niels Martens)**, *Philosophy of Physics Graduate Seminar (Oxford)*.
- 2016 **Taking up superspace**, *BSPS annual conference (Cardiff), Foundations 2016 (LSE), PSA 2016 (Atlanta)*.

Academic service

- 2017 **Referee**, *Synthese, Foundations of Physics*.
- 2015-2016, **Co-convenor**, *Philosophy of Physics Graduate Seminar (Oxford)*.
- 2018
- 2014-2015 **Co-convenor**, *Philosophy of Quantum Gravity reading group (Oxford)*.

Relevant work experience

- 2011 **Documentary Writer and Presenter**, *Visvesvaraya Industrial and Technological Museum (VITM), Bangalore*, Conceived, wrote, developed and presented a five episode series of documentaries for the VITM on electromagnetism, including designing and building all experiments.

Referees

Prof. David Wallace, *University of Southern California*, dmwallac@usc.edu.

Prof. Simon Saunders, *University of Oxford*, simon.saunders@philosophy.ox.ac.uk.

Prof. Nick Huggett, *University of Illinois at Chicago*, huggett@uic.edu.

Prof. David John Baker, *University of Michigan, Ann Arbor*, djbaker@umich.edu.

Dr. Richard Dawid, *University of Stockholm*, richard.dawid@philosophy.su.se.

Dr. Dennis Lehmkuhl, *California Institute of Technology*, lemkuhl@caltech.edu.

Dr. Alexander Paseau, *University of Oxford*, alexander.paseau@wadham.ox.ac.uk.
(Teaching reference)