

# CURRICULUM VITAE

## DR. JOHNNY HARTZ SØRAKER

### PERSONAL DETAILS

Date of Birth:	November 7, 1977
Nationality:	Norwegian
Address:	Department of Philosophy, University of Twente Postbox 217, 7500AE Enschede, Netherlands
Current position:	Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy, University of Twente
Degrees:	Doctor (Ph.D.), University of Twente, April 2010 Master of Arts (Cand. Philol.), Norwegian University of Science and Technology, 2004 Bachelor of Arts (Cand. Mag.), Norwegian University of Science and Technology, 2000
E-mail:	j.h.soraker@utwente.nl (alt: johnny@soraker.com)
Websites:	<a href="http://www.soraker.com">http://www.soraker.com</a> <a href="http://www.utwente.nl/ceptes/research_staff/Soraker/">http://www.utwente.nl/ceptes/research_staff/Soraker/</a>
Phone:	+31-53-489-5603 (office), +31-64-705-9544 (Mobile), +47 900 28208 (Norway)
Languages:	Norwegian (native speaker; entails fluency in Swedish and Danish) English (fluent) Dutch (good comprehension; intermediate speaking; NT2-level) German (basic)

### EDUCATION

Dec 2006 – April 2010	DOCTOR (PH.D.) – “MET LOF” (Highest distinction) University of Twente, April 2010  Title: <i>The Value of Virtual Worlds and Entities – A Philosophical Analysis of Virtual Worlds and Their Potential Impact on Well-Being</i> (Philosophy and Ethics of Technology; Philosophy of the Good life; Positive Psychology; Ontology and Epistemology [of real vs. virtual]; Social constructionism ...)
2001–2004	MASTER OF ARTS, M.A. (CAND. PHILOL.) IN PHILOSOPHY [HIGHEST GRADE ('A')] (120 ECTS) Title: <i>Man vs. Machine – a philosophical exploration of the concept of 'continuity'</i> (Philosophy of Mind, Phil. of AI, Philosophy of Science, epistemology+++)
1996–2000	BACHELOR OF ARTS, B.A. (CAND. MAG.) (243 ECTS) - Psychology (60 ECTS), Comparative Literature (60 ECTS) and Philosophy (123 ECTS. Specialization in Philosophy of Science and Biology)
1993–1996	Melhus Upper Secondary School (specialization in Physics and Mathematics)

## PAST AND CURRENT ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

SEPT 2010 –	ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF PHILOSOPHY OF TECHNOLOGY (FULL TIME) DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY, UNIVERSITY OF TWENTE.
April 2010 – Sept. 2010	PostDoctoral Research Fellow (full-time, fixed term) Department of Philosophy, University of Twente.
December 2006 – April 2010	PhD Research Fellow (full-time, fixed term) Department of Philosophy, University of Twente.
2004–2006	University lecturer (part-time, fixed term) Department of Philosophy, Norwegian University of Science and Technology
2002-2006	Research Assistant (part-time, fixed term) Programme for Applied Ethics, Norwegian Univ. of Science and Technology
2005–2006	Guest lecturer (part-time, fixed term) Information and E-learning Faculty. Sør-Trøndelag University College (HIST)
2002–2004	Teaching Assistant (part-time, fixed term) Department of Philosophy, Norwegian University of Science and Technology

## TEACHING AND SUPERVISION EXPERIENCE (SELECTION):

2007 –	MASTER STUDENT SUPERVISION, Department of Philosophy, University of Twente: Richard Heersmink (graduated Jan 2009), Tom Kruijsen (grad. Dec 2008), Jaak Vlasveld (grad. Oct 2009), Philip Serracino Inglott (second reader, grad. Oct 2010)
2010 –	INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY (Lecturer) Department of Philosophy, University of Twente [5 ECTS, M.Sc]
2010 – 2011	INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHICAL METHODS (logic & analytic philosophy) (Lecturer) Department of Philosophy, University of Twente [5 ECTS, M.Sc]
2010 –	PROFESSIONAL ETHICS FOR PSYCHOLOGISTS (Co-lecturer) Department of Psychology, University of Twente [5 ECTS, B.Sc]
2010 –	HISTORY OF PSYCHOLOGY (Lecturer) Department of Psychology, University of Twente [5 ECTS, B.Sc]
2010 –	ETHICS AND TECHNOLOGY (levels 1 & 2) (Coordinator and lecturer) Department of Philosophy, University of Twente [10 ECTS, M.Sc]
2007–	COMPUTER ETHICS Electrical Engineering, Mathematics & Computer Science, U.Twente [5 ECTS, M.Sc]
2005–	ETHICS FOR SOFTWARE ENGINEERS (3-day intensive seminar each fall) Information and E-learning, Sør-Trøndelag Univ. College (HIST) [6 ECTS, M.Sc]
2009	'WE CREATE IDENTITY' (co-lecturer), Creative Technology, University of Twente [3 ECTS, B.Sc]
2004–2006	HISTORY OF PHILOSOPHY AND PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE (Examen Philosophicum), Department of Philosophy, NTNU [7.5 ECTS, B.A & B.Sc]
2006	CONTEMPORARY PHILOSOPHY (Zapffe, Camus, Nagel, Chalmers, Heyd, Apel, Wittgenstein, Churchland). Department of Philosophy, NTNU [7.5 ECTS, B.A]

---

## SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS:

---

### BOOKS AND EDITORSHIPS:

1. Søraker, J.H. (2010b): *The Value of Virtual Worlds and Entities – A Philosophical Analysis of Virtual Worlds and Their Potential Impact on Well-Being* [dissertation]. Ipskamp: Enschede. ISBN: 978-90-365-3010-1
2. Ess, C., Søraker, J.H. & Thorseth, M. (2010): *Mobile / ubiquitous computing: dreams and nightmares*. Special Issue of *Etikk i Praksis – Nordic Journal of Applied Ethics*, 2, 2010.
3. Søraker, J.H. (2005): *Menneske vs. Maskin – en utforskning av begrepet 'kontinuitet' ('Man vs. Machine – an exploration of the concept 'continuity'))* [Masters Thesis]. In *Filosofisk institutts publikasjonsserie*, Vol. 47. Filosofisk institutt: Trondheim. ISBN: 978-829-105-550-3

### PEER-REVIEWED PAPERS IN INTERNATIONAL JOURNALS AND ANTHOLOGIES:

4. Søraker, J.H. (Forthcoming): "The relative value of virtual relationships: A critique of objective measures of quality of life in virtual communities" Accepted for publication in Brey, P., Briggie, A. and Spence, E., eds., *The Good Life in a Technological Age*. London: Routledge.
5. Søraker, J.H. (2011): "Virtual Entities, Environments, World and Reality – Suggested definitions and taxonomy". In C. Ess and M. Thorseth, eds., *Trust and Virtual Worlds: Contemporary Perspectives*, pp. 44-73. New York: Peter Lang Publishing.
6. Søraker, J.H. (2010a): "The Neglect of Reason – A Plea for Rationalist Accounts of the Effects of Virtual Violence". In C. Wankel and S. Malleck, eds., *Emerging Ethical Issues of Life in Virtual Worlds*. Charlotte, NC: Information Age Publishing, pp. 15-32.
7. Brey, P & Søraker, J.H. (2009d): "Philosophy of Computing and Information Technology". In A. Meijers and S. O. Hansson, eds., *Philosophy of Technology and Engineering Sciences*. Vol IX in D. Gabbay, P. Thagard and J. Woods, eds., *Handbook of the Philosophy of Science*. Amsterdam: Elsevier. Pp. 1341-1408

An adapted précis of this chapter appears in *APA Newsletter on Philosophy and Computers*, 8(2): 15-16

8. Søraker, J.H. (2008b): "Global Freedom of Expression within Non-Textual Frameworks". *The Information Society*, 24(1):40-46.
9. Søraker, J.H. & Brey, P. (2007c): "Ambient Intelligence and Problems with Inferring Desires from Behaviour", *International Review of Information Ethics*, 8(1):7-12.
10. Søraker, J.H. (2007b): "The Moral Status of Information and Information Technologies – a relational theory of moral status", S. Hongladarom and C. Ess (Eds.), *Information Technology Ethics: Cultural Perspectives*, Hershey, PA: Idea Group Publishing.  
Reprinted in H. Nemati (ed.), *Information Security and Ethics: Concepts, Methodologies, Tools, and Applications*. Hershey, PA: IGI Global, 2007
11. Søraker, J.H. (2006): "The Role of Pragmatic Arguments in Computer Ethics", *Ethics and Information Technology*, 8(3):121-130

## CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS AND OTHER PUBLICATIONS

12. Søraker, J.H. (2011): "Affecting the World or Affecting the Mind? The Role of Mind in Computer Ethics". In C. Ess & R. Hagengruber, eds., *The Computational Turn: Past, Presents, Futures? [Proceedings of IACAP 2011]*, pp. 197-200. Munster: Monsenstein und Vannerdat. ISBN 978-3-86991-355-1
13. Ess, C, Søraker, J.H. & Thorseth, M. (2010b): "Introduction". In *Etikk i Praksis – Nordic Journal of Applied Ethics*, 2, 2010. ISSN: 1890-4009
14. Søraker, J.H. (2009c): "Virtually Good? – What Can We Learn From the Argument from False Pleasures?". In Bottis, M., ed., *8<sup>th</sup> International Conference Computer Ethics: Philosophical Enquiry*, pp. 767-778. Athens: Nomiki Bibliothiki. ISBN: 978-960-272-654-9 *Computer Ethics: Philosophical Enquiry* (CEPE) 2009 proceedings
15. Søraker, J.H. (2009b): "Technological Singularity as Upgrading/Degrading Continuity". In J. Vallverdu, ed., *VIIth European Conference on Philosophy and Computing*, p. 165. Barcelona: UAB. ISBN/DL: B-27978-2009
16. Søraker, J.H. (2009a): "Convergence and Divergence in the Future Information Society". In Hamer, I., ed., *Living the ICT Future*, pp. 62-63. Enschede: CTIT. ISBN: 978-90-365-2963-1
17. Søraker, J.H. (2008a): "Lessons Learnt from ECAP". In *IACAP Newsletter* 3(1): 3-6.
18. Søraker, J.H. (2007a): "Real norms, Virtual Cases: A Rationalist, Casuistic Account of Virtual Rape". In Hinman, L., Brey, P., Floridi, L., Grodzinsky, F. and Introna, L. (eds.), *Proceedings of CEPE 2007 – The 7<sup>th</sup> International Conference of Computer Ethics: Philosophical Enquiry*. Enschede: Center for Telematics and Information Technology (CTIT), pp. 340-347. ISSN: 0929-0672
19. Søraker, J.H. (2005): Introduction to computer ethics. Textbook for computer ethics course (90 pages), Sør-Trøndelag University College (HIST)

## REFEREED PAPERS GIVEN AT INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS (SELECTION)

- 2011: "Johnny Søraker: How Shall I Compare Thee? Comparing the Prudential Value of Actual and Virtual Friendship". *Third Annual Dutch Conference on Practical Philosophy*, Amsterdam.
- 2011: "Affecting the World or Affecting the Mind? The Role of Mind in Computer Ethics". *International Association of Computing and Philosophy Conference*, Aarhus, Denmark
- 2011: "Positiv(ist) Ethics of Technology: Combining the Empirical and Axiological Turn in Philosophy of Technology", *Society for Philosophy of Technology*. Denton, TX
- 2011: "When Does Mind Matter? The Role of Information Ethics in Computer Ethics". *Computer Ethics: Philosophical Enquiry*, Milwaukee, IL
- 2010: "Good and Grounded – Combining the Empirical and Axiological Turn in Computer Ethics". *European Computing And Philosophy Conference*, Munich, Germany
- 2009: "Virtual Entities, Environments, Worlds and Reality – Suggested definitions and Taxonomy", *Philosophy of Computer Games Conference*, University of Oslo, Norway.

- 2009: "Virtually Good? – What Can We Learn From the Argument from False Pleasures?". *Computer Ethics: Philosophical Enquiry (CEPE)* 2009, Curfu, Greece. Same paper given at *Society of Philosophy of Technology (SPT)* biennial conference 2009, Twente, Netherlands
- 2009: "Technological Singularity as Upgrading/Degrading Continuity". *European Computing And Philosophy (ECAP)* 2009, Barcelona, Spain
- 2008: "The relative value of virtual relationships: A critique of objective measures of quality of life in virtual communities", *Internet Research 9.0 (AOIR)*, IT University, Copenhagen.
- 2008: "Computer simulation and virtuality – Not the same old stew world", *European Computing And Philosophy conference [ECAP]*, LIRMM, Montpellier, France
- 2008: "The relative value of real and virtual experiences", *The Good Life In a Technological Age (GLiTA)*, University of Twente, Netherlands
- 2007: "Real norms, Virtual Cases: A Rationalist, Casuistic Account of Virtual Rape", *Computer Ethics: Philosophical Enquiry [CEPE]*, San Diego CA, USA
- 2007: "The Discourse of 'You': User-Generated Content in View of Discourse Ethics and Global Information Ethics", *Society for Philosophy and Technology*, Charleston SC, USA
- 2007: "User-created Virtual Environments and Global Freedom of Speech", *European Computing And Philosophy conference [ECAP]*, University of Twente, Netherlands
- 2007: "Did the Sage of Königsberg never try VR? – Some Reflections on Virtual Reality in Light of Kantian Metaphysics", International Workshop on *Kant and New Technology*, NTNU, Norway
- 2006: "A Centralized Model for the Regulation of Anonymity Online", *European Computing And Philosophy conference [ECAP]*, NTNU, Norway
- 2005: "Computer ethics and deliberative democracy – the re-ontologization of democracy", *Navigating Globalization*, NTNU, Norway
- 2005: "Object-Oriented Programming, and Computer Ethics", *European Computing And Philosophy conference [ECAP]*, Mälardalen University, Sweden
- 2005: "The Layered Architecture of the Internet and its inherent ideals", International Workshop, *Bridging cultures*, NTNU

#### **INVITED LECTURES AND VALORISATION (SELECTION):**

- 2011: "Designing for well-being". IDEAL PhD Summer School, TU Delft
- 2011: "Skepticism, and its Natural Enemies". *Skeptics in the Pub*, Enschede, Netherlands
- 2011: "IT design for well-being". *WIC-2011 Well-being innovation camp* (PhD Summer School), TU Eindhoven
- 2010: "Virtual Worlds and personal well-being – Is Virtually Good not Actually Good?". Invited Lecture for KIVI-NIRIA (Royal Institute of Engineers in the Netherlands), Hague, Netherlands
- 2009: "The Good, the Bad, and the Dubious". Invited Lecture for "Invloed van de modern media op de toekomst", VGST, Enschede, Netherlands
- 2009: Invited speaker (several presentations) for "Philosophy of Virtuality: Trust, Offense, Deliberation and Virtues", International workshop, NTNU, Norway

- 2009: "Gamers hebben lak aan regels", Interview with Radio Netherlands Worldwide <http://www.rnw.nl/nl/nederlands/article/gamers-hebben-lak-aan-regels>
- 2009: "Real Life, Second Life, Half Life – How many lives can a person have?". Public discussion panel at MAC Berlijn, June 12, 2009
- 2007: "Aesthetics, Creativity and Ethics in Second Life", Invited speaker, Dutch Art Institute (AKI), Twente, Netherlands
- 2008: "Using Virtual Worlds for Social Services", Gemeente workshop: CLUSTA Congress, Gemeente Deventer/TNO, Almelo, Netherlands
- 2007: "Research and Business in Second Life; What's so Special about it?", Public lecture, SFBC Monthly Meeting, Enschede, Netherlands
- 2006: "Online Research Ethics", Invited speaker, The Norwegian Association of Special Libraries' (NFF) annual seminar
- 2005: "The Ethical challenges of new technologies – Dangers and Opportunities for Children Online", Invited speaker, World Mental Health Day Symposium 2005, Trondheim, Norway
- 2005: "Objektorientert programmering og etikk" ["Object-oriented programming and ethics"], Guest Lecture, Forum for Theory of Science (Vitenskapsteoretisk forum), NTNU, Norway
- 2004: "Internetts arkitektur og etiske utfordringer" ["Internet Architecture and ethical challenges"], Guest Lecture, Forum for Theory of Science, NTNU, Norway.

---

#### **MEMBERSHIPS AND ADMINISTRATIVE WORK (SELECTION):**

---

- *International Association of Computing and Philosophy (IACAP)*: Technical director, Member of European Steering Committee (2008-2011).
- Local organizer: *European Computing and Philosophy* conference in 2006 (NTNU) & 2007 (UT)
- Program track chair for "Information and Computing Ethics" (ECAP'06, NTNU), "IT and Globalization" (ECAP'07, UT), "Ethical and Political Dimensions of ICTs in Globalization" (ECAP'08, LIRMM, Montpellier), "Computer and Information Ethics" (ECAP'09, UAB, Barcelona)
- Co-founder and managing co-editor (2006) *Etikk i Praksis – Nordic Journal of Applied Ethics*.
- Regular referee for *Ethics and Information Technology*, *Techne: Journal of the Society for Philosophy and Technology*, *Philosophy & Technology*, and *Etikk i Praksis – Nordic Journal of Applied Ethics*.
- Local organizer of International conference *The Good Life in a Technological Age* (UT, 2008).
- Member of Oxford University Research Group on the Philosophy of Information (IEG)
- Member of 3TU Centre for Ethics and Technology, International Society for Ethics & Information Technology (INSEIT), Society of Philosophy of Technology (SPT), Association of Internet Researchers (AoIR), Center for Philosophy of Technology and Engineering Science (CEPTES), Centre for Telematics and Information Technology (CTIT).

---

## RESEARCH GRANTS

---

- 2006-2010: NWO VICI PhD Research Grant, Dutch Research Council
- 2006: Publication Grant, Programme for Applied Ethics, NTNU [~9.000€]
- 2005: Junior research incentive grant, Fac. of Social Sc. and Tech. Mgmt., NTNU [~4.500€]
- 2004: Junior research incentive grant, Globalization Programme, NTNU [~3.000€]

---

## ACADEMIC REFERENCES

---

Professor Philip Brey, Dept. of Philosophy, Univ. of Twente  
PhD Supervisor and Promotor  
+31 53 489 4426, [p.a.e.brey@utwente.nl](mailto:p.a.e.brey@utwente.nl)

Professor Charles Ess, Dept. of Information and Media Studies, Aarhus University  
Member of doctoral committee, long-time collaboration partner  
+45 8942 9250, [cmess@drury.edu](mailto:cmess@drury.edu)

Professor May Thorseth, Dept. of Philosophy, Norwegian Univ. of Science and Technology  
Former employer at Programme for Applied Ethics  
+47 7359 6535, [may.thorseth@ntnu.no](mailto:may.thorseth@ntnu.no)

---