

“Understanding as Respect”: PDA Final Progress Report

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Progress on my PDA, funded by an external grant from the John Templeton Foundation, was roughly as projected: A stand-alone article entitled, “Understanding as Respect(ing)” is complete. I am currently circulating it for feedback and expect to submit the paper for the first time, most likely to the journal *Ethics*, in late 2015 or early 2016. Parts of this paper were presented in a talk entitled, “The Authority of Empathy,” at the *Moral Sentimentalism and the Foundations of Morality* conference, hosted by the College of the Holy

Cross (November, 2014). The full paper was presented at the Templeton Capstone Conference in NYC (June, 2015). I presented it again at the 51st Annual Cincinnati Philosophy Colloquium, *Perspectives on Empathy* (September, 2015).

Parts of my research appear in my critical review of Lori Gruen’s recent book, *Entangled Empathy*, which was presented as part of an invited “Author Meets Critics” panel during the 2016 Pacific Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association in San Francisco (March, 2016). This review of Gruen will also appear in print, together with Gruen’s replies, in the journal, *Hypatia* (forthcoming 2016 or early 2017).

I projected a book, which would extend the thesis of my PDA research project. The book is underway, though behind schedule. It will not be finished until the Fall of 2016 or Spring 2017. However, a few *unplanned* publication projects directly related to my PDA research have developed organically since I began my research, and are scheduled to be complete during the 2015-16 academic year. First, I authored a paper entitled “Understanding Persons and the Problem of Power.” This will appear in an anthology edited by Stephen Grimm, already under contract with Oxford University Press, entitled *New Essays on Understanding*. (This paper was completed on time and accepted by the Editor; the book should appear in early 2017). Second, parts of my research appear in a paper entitled, “The Authority of Empathy,” which will appear in an anthology entitled, *Ethical Sentimentalism*, which I am coediting with Karsten Stueber. This book is already under contract with Cambridge University Press. (The book was submitted in March 2016; it should appear in early to mid 2017). Finally, after hearing of my research on understanding and respect, I was invited to write the opening chapter for a new Oxford University Press volume tentatively entitled, *Respect for Persons*, edited by Oliver Sensen and Richard Dean. I plan to complete that chapter in the fall, 2016, and submit it in January, 2017.