

J M Ostrowick
HdipEd, MA

Dear Reader

I have a strong interest in Philosophy, and Philosophy of Mind and Science in particular. My MA dissertation was on the question of free-will, and my PhD thesis is on the existence of God.

As you can see from my CV, I am highly motivated, skilled in a wide variety of areas, and I am particularly well-trained in teaching. I have a formal high-school teacher's qualification with six months of practice, and I have taught a variety of courses at university level.

I have one publication — in philosophy of mind. I plan to submit some of my PhD chapters for publication once I graduate.

I hope my CV interests you.

Yours sincerely

John Ostrowick

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Curriculum Vitæ

as at September 28, 2011

Personal Details

Full name: John Montague Ostrowick
Driver's License: Motorcar, UK and RSA
Year of birth: 1973
Residence: Johannesburg, South Africa
Nationality: South African, with UK Ancestral Visa Work Permit
Current Employment: Entrepreneur and Postgraduate Student
Notice Period: None
Telephone and Email: Available on request; contact me on Facebook
Family: Married, one child.

Educational History and achievements

Primary School English Prizes: 1984, 1985

Jeppe High School Prefect in charge of attendance records,
University entrance qualification (Matric) (1990)

**Johannesburg
College of
Education (WITS)** Higher Diploma in Education, specialising in
Physical Science, Mathematics, Biology and Education
(1994). Qualified to teach at high-school level.

**The University of the
Witwatersrand** Bachelor of Arts (1997), majoring in Psychology and
Philosophy. First-class prize 1995, first-class prize
1997, Philosophy of Science.

BA Honours, Philosophy (part-time, 2000).

Master of Arts by dissertation in Philosophy
(part-time, 2006). Dissertation title: *Whether we have free-will and
whether it matters*. Available for download on *academia.edu*.

Tangent Systems	Advanced Linux Course (86%) (2003) Ethical Hacking and Security Course (No assessment, attendance only) (2004).
The ITAA	Attended the Transactional Analysis 101 Course (August 2008). (No assessment, attendance only) .
Edinburgh University	Accepted into PhD programme (2008). Completed one year, transferred to UCT due to recession.
University of Cape Town	Accepted into PhD programme (2010), currently supervised jointly by Edinburgh and UCT.
<i>Employment History</i>	
Early 1991-94	Freelance DTP work. Johannesburg College of Education teacher training—6 months in total, spread over four years. I was also a member of a team of students that performed a community service project in rural KwaZulu-Natal, rebuilding a primary school (Nompondo Primary, Hlabiso District), over a period of approximately three weeks.
1993-1994	First Link Insurance Brokers—office assistant, network administrator, desktop publishing artist.
1995-2008	The University of the Witwatersrand—system administrator: Macintosh and Unix, some part-time lecturing: School of Computer Science and National Bioinformatics Network. I was employed at WITS for thirteen years exactly. I left in order to pursue a PhD at Edinburgh University. Did the website for the ITAA conference.
2009	Assisted with disabled students at Edinburgh University. Presented a course in Web Design (HTML, CGI, JavaScript). Informal Linux tutoring. Published a number of popular press books. More below.
2010-2011	Ran an IT consultancy specialising in Web Design. Wrote popular press news politics articles for ViewsHound.com, regularly winning prizes for best article.

Skill areas

Computer-related

Web design; I have built several sites (hand-coded — JavaScript, PHP, MySQL, CSS, HTML, Perl/CGI), Adobe Photoshop.

I have extensive expertise in Linux and Mac OS X.

Typing speed: 70 words per minute.

Teaching

Qualified to teach up to grade 12: Science, Mathematics, Biology.

I have taught university students, and presented computer courses in all my areas of expertise, including lectures for Computer Science Honours students on networking and Linux Operating System Architecture (2003-2005 inclusive). I presented a similar course to the National Bioinformatics Network at the University of the Western Cape (2004-2008 inclusive), the WITS branch (2006), as well as the University of the Orange Free State (2008). These courses were well-received and highly rated.

I am very knowledgeable in most fields and can teach anything. I am enthusiastic about learning and about sharing my knowledge with others. I can explain things well and I am exceptionally clear.

I have tutored students in Edinburgh and I have presented a course on web design (2009).

Research work

I am studying a PhD part-time in Philosophy and have produced two papers.

Writing

I believe that my writing is superb, and I can work within a range of styles or registers, from journalistic, to novels, to hard sciences.

Conference Papers

I have published some conference papers.

- Network Booting versus hard disks: Costs and Implications (Conference on IT in Tertiary Education, UCT, Cape Town, ZA, in 2004). A paper on performance statistics.
- Libet's Experiments and Free-Will: Implications (Hawaii International Conference on Arts and Humanities, Sheraton Waikiki, Honolulu, HI, USA, in 2005). Also presented at Rhodes University Philosophy Colloquium (2005) and Johannesburg College of Education (2006) with relevance for educationalists, as

well as WITS Law School (2006), with a focus on Law of Delict. An article on neuropsychology.

- This paper was also accepted for publication as The Timing Experiments of Libet and Grey Walter in the South African Journal of Philosophy, vol 26 no 3. (2007).
- Another Futile Attempt to Dismiss Skepticism (PPASA, The University of the Witwatersrand, JHB, ZA, in 2006).

Books Published

I have published about ten popular-level books with an online publisher (Lulu.com), mainly computer-related. I'm presently working on several writing projects, including an introductory Ethics text.

Languages

English (Home language, exceptional fluency), Afrikaans. Some understanding of German.

Other areas of interest:

Particle Physics, Astronomy, Chemistry, Biochemistry, Genetics, Evolutionary Biology and Archæology/ Palæontology, Historical or Comparative Linguistics, Philosophy of Science, Philosophy of Mind, Sociology and Politics, Epistemology and Metaphilosophy, Art, History, Operating Systems.

Character and Management Skills

I am an innovative thinker. I am efficient and knowledgeable. I work well in a team and I am also good at managing others, prioritising and delegating tasks and seeing the bigger picture.

- I was the chairperson of the board of directors of the legally-registered entity which represented my residential complex (2000-2003).
- I also managed a subordinate technician at my former university for about two years (2006-2007).
- I managed a team of three developers on a backup software product that I designed. (2007).

Work Preferences

I am happiest in an environment where I can be innovative, learn, and help others to do so. I value job stability (I was in my most recent job for 13 years). I am available immediately for work.

References

- Search for me by my full name at any search engine.

- Prof Conrad Mueller, *conrad@cs.wits.ac.za*, head of Mathematical Sciences—was my head of department from 1995-2005.
- Prof Scott Hazelhurst, *scott.hazelhurst@wits.ac.za*, knows my teaching and Linux skills.
- Adi Meyers, *adimeyers@gmail.com*, knows my teaching and Linux skills.
- I have several professional recommendations from various people listed on LinkedIn.com.