

RICE UNIVERSITY

**Can You Believe It?  
A Case for Meaningful Control of Belief**

by

**Heather Anne Phillips**

A THESIS SUBMITTED  
IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE  
REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE

**Doctor of Philosophy**

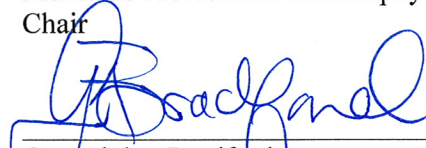
APPROVED, THESIS COMMITTEE:



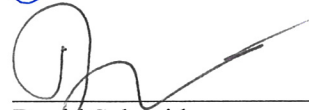
Casey O'Callaghan  
Associate Professor of Philosophy  
Washington University in St. Louis  
Director



Richard Grandy  
McManis Professor of Philosophy  
Chair



Gwendolyn Bradford  
Assistant Professor of Philosophy



David Schneider  
Professor Emeritus of Psychology

HOUSTON, TEXAS  
MAY 2015