

Curriculum Vitae

Education

- Ph.D.** University of Chicago (Early Christian Literature), 1997
- M.A.** University of Chicago (Early Christian Literature), 1993
- Th.M.** Westminster Theological Seminary (New Testament), 1989
- M.A.R.** Westminster Theological Seminary (Biblical Studies), 1986
- B.A.** Seattle Pacific University (Humanities-Classics), 1984

Academic Appointments

DePaul University, Department of Religious Studies, Associate Professor (Autumn 2002 to present)

Courses taught: Introduction to the New Testament; The Historical Jesus; Paul and Early Christianity; Varieties of Early Christianity; Gender and Family in Early Christianity; Gods and Goddesses in the Greek and Roman World; Gods in the Roman Empire; From Jesus to Constantine; The Bible Goes to the Movies; Religious Worlds and Worldviews (Honors Program); Religious Worldviews and Ethical Perspectives (Honors Program); Religious Fundamentalism (Sophomore Seminar)

University of Iowa, School of Religion, Visiting Assistant Professor (Autumn 2000 to Spring 2002)

Courses taught: New Testament Survey; Synoptic Gospels; Paul; History of Christian Theology I; Images of Jesus in Art, Literature, and Culture

University of Chicago, Department of Early Christian Literature, Lecturer (Autumn 1994 to Spring 2000)

Courses taught: New Testament Greek; Readings in Hellenistic Greek; Christianity and the Roman Empire (Graham School of Continuing Education)

McCormick Theological Seminary, Lecturer (Winter 1992 to Spring 1994; Autumn 1998 to Spring 1999)

Courses taught: Acts of the Apostles; Introduction to Greek Exegesis

Westminster Theological Seminary, Lecturer (Autumn 1987 to Spring 1989)

Courses taught: New Testament Greek

Creative Activities

Books:

Pauline Christianity: Luke-Acts and the Legacy of Paul. Supplements to Novum Testamentum 104. Leiden: Brill, 2002.

Articles (Refereed Journals):

“1 Corinthians 11:3-16: Spirit Possession and Authority in a Non-Pauline Interpolation,” *Journal of Biblical Literature* 124 (2005) 313-40.

Book Chapters:

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(Submitted) “Spirit Possession in Christ Cults Associated with Paul and Roman Discourses of Political Power,” in *Paul as Homo Novus: Authorial Strategies of Self-Fashioning in Light of a Ciceronian Term* (ed. Eve-Marie Becker and Jacob Mortensen; Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht).

“Belief, Gullibility, and the Presence of a God in the Early Roman Empire.” Pages 85-106 in *Credible, Incredible: The Miraculous in the Ancient Mediterranean.* Edited by Tobias Nicklas and Janet Spittler. WUNT 321. Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 2013.

“Constructing Paul as a Christian in the Acts of the Apostles.” Pages 141-52 in *Engaging Early Christian History: Reading Acts in the Second Century.* Edited by R. Dupertuis and T. Penner. Durham, U.K.: Routledge, 2013.

“Paul’s Place in Early Christianity.” Pages 90-114 in *Paul and the Heritage of Israel: Paul’s Claim upon Israel’s Legacy in Luke and Acts in the Light of the Pauline Letters.* Edited by David P. Moessner, Daniel Marguerat, Mikeal C. Parson, and Michael Volter. London: T&T Clark, 2012.

“Religious Experience, the Religion of Paul, and Women in Pauline Churches.” Pages 323-347 in *Women and Gender in Ancient Religion: Interdisciplinary Approaches.* Edited by Stephen Ahearne-Kroll, Paul Holloway, and Jim Kelhoffer. Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 2010.

“Luke-Acts and the Investigation of Christian Tradition: From a Life of Jesus to a History of Christianity.” Pages 380-92 in *Die Apostelgeschichte im Kontext antiker und frühchristlicher Historiographie.* Edited by Jörg Frey, Clare K. Rothschild, and Jens Schröter. De Gruyter: Berlin and New York, 2009.

Book Reviews:

The Originality of Jesus: A Critical Discussion and a Comparative Attempt by Per Bilde (Göttingen: Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht, 2013) in Review of Biblical Literature (March 2016): <http://www.bookreviews.org/BookDetail.asp?TitleId=9412>.

Paul in Ecstasy: The Neurobiology of the Apostle's Life and Thought by Colleen Shantz (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2009) in *Journal of Religion* 90 (2010): 597-99.

Paul: In Fresh Perspective by N. T. Wright (Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2005) in *Catholic Biblical Quarterly* 69 (2007): 606-607.

Leadership and Lifestyle: The Portrait of Paul in the Miletus Speech and 1 Thessalonians by Steve Walton (SNTSMS 108; Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2000) in *Journal of Religion* 82 (2002): 100-101.

The Birth of Christianity: Discovering What Happened in the Years Immediately after the Execution of Jesus by John Dominic Crossan (San Francisco: HarperSanFrancisco, 1998) in *Journal of Religion* 80 (2000): 118-20.

Reading Acts: A Literary and Theological Commentary on the Acts of the Apostles by Charles H. Talbert (New York: Crossroad, 1997) in *Journal of Religion* 78 (1998): 669-70.

Luke's Portrait of Paul by John Clayton Lentz, Jr. (SNTSMS 77; Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1993) in *Journal of Religion* 74 (1994): 555-57.

Making Charisma: The Social Construction of Paul's Public Image by Anthony J. Blasi (New Brunswick and London: Transaction Publishers, 1991) in *Journal of Religion* 73 (1993): 245-46.

Scholarly Papers:

** (Committed) "Possession Cults in Q and Mark," Society of Biblical Literature annual meeting November 2017.

"Acts of Healing and the Social Construction of the Presence of a God," invited paper for plenary session Midwest Society of Biblical Literature meeting, 10-12 February 2012

"The Imperial Self: Spirit Possession and Apotheosis in the Religion of Paul," Society of Biblical Literature annual meeting 22 November 2009.

"History of Religions, Religious Experience, and Spirit Possession in the Religion of Paul," invited paper for Women in the Religious and Intellectual Activity of the Ancient Mediterranean World: An Interdisciplinary and International Conference in Honor of Adela Yarbro Collins, 15-17 March 2009, Columbus, Ohio.

"Imagining Religion: History of Religions and the Religion of Paul," invited paper for Chicago Society of Biblical Research, 28 February 2009.

"I know a person in Christ who fourteen yours ago was caught up to the third heaven': Myth and Religious Experience in the Religion of Paul," invited paper for Society of Biblical Literature annual meeting, 24 November 2008.

“Persecution and Social Prejudice in Early Christianity: Constructing Paul as a Christian in the Acts of the Apostles,” Society of Biblical Literature annual meeting, 23 November 2008.

“Constructing Paul as a Christian in the Acts of the Apostles,” Association of Chicago Theological Schools, New Testament Group, 12 March 2008.

“Why Were Early Christians Persecuted? The Religion of Paul in the Acts of the Apostles,” Midwest Society of Biblical Literature meeting, 15-17 February 2008.

“‘Jesus Is Lord’: Religious Experience and the Religion of Paul,” Society of Biblical Literature annual meeting, 18-21 November 2006.

“Religious Experience and the Religion of Paul,” Midwest Society of Biblical Literature meeting, 10-12 February 2006.

“Manufacturing Belief: Alexander and Paul as Case Studies of Religious Innovation in the Early Roman Empire,” Society of Biblical Literature annual meeting, 19-22 November 2005.

Response to “The Cross and Cycles of Violence” presented by Barbara Reid, Association of Chicago Theological Schools, New Testament Group, 3 March 2005.

“Manufacturing Belief: Spirit Possession and Rituals of Power in Paul’s Gospel to the Galatians,” Chicago Society of Biblical Research, 20 February 2005.

“Constructing the Religion of Paul: On the Comparison of Representations of Paul in the New Testament,” invited paper for *Studiosorum Novi Testamenti Societas* 59th General Meeting, 3-7 August 2004, Barcelona.

“Spirit Possession, Magic, and the Controversy over Paul’s Gospel in Galatia,” Midwest Society of Biblical Literature meeting, 20-22 February 2004.

Review of *The Resurrection of Mary Magdalene: Legends, Apocrypha, and the Christian Testament* by Jane Schaberg, Midwest Society of Biblical Literature meeting, 20-22 February 2004.

“Spirit Possession and Magic: Rethinking the Social Construction of the Religious Experience of the Apostle Paul and his Communities,” DePaul University LA&S Faculty Seminar Series, 28 January 2004.

“1 Corinthians 11:3-16: Spirit Possession and Authority in a Non-Pauline Interpolation,” Association of Chicago Theological Schools, New Testament Group, 9 December 2003.

“1 Corinthians 11:3-16: Spirit Possession and Authority in a Non-Pauline Interpolation,” Department of Religious Studies Convivium, DePaul University, 12 June 2003.

“Patterns of Religion: On the Comparison of Jesus and Paul to Second Temple Judaism in Light of the Dead Sea Scrolls,” DePaul Dead Sea Scrolls Conference, 27 February 2003.

“1 Corinthians 11:3-16: Spirit Possession and Gender Hierarchy in Corinth,” 2003 Midwest SBL meeting, 21-23 February 2003.

Other Presentations:

“Religion, Superstition, and Christian Empires,” Lake Shore Unitarian Society, 6 February 2011.

“How Roman Imperialism and Christian Persecution Shaped the New Testament,” Lake Shore Unitarian Society, 24 January 2010.

“Understanding Religious Experience,” Center for Interreligious Engagement, DePaul University, 30 April 2009.

“Is God There?” 33 Catholic Students on Wednesdays, DePaul University, 15 April 2009.

“Exporting Christianity? Four DePaul Professors Discuss St. Paul,” DePaul University, 17 February 2009.

Panel discussion, “Religulous,” DePaul University, 29 October 2008

“New Deities: Prophets and Religious Innovation in the Early Roman Empire,” Lake Shore Unitarian Society, 12 October 2008

“Writing Women out of the Gospels: Jesus, Mary Magdalene and the Authority of the Church,” Common Ground, 11 June 2008.

“Religious Fundamentalism, Science, and Violence: From the Scopes Trial to Islamic Extremists,” Lake Shore Unitarian Society, 23 March 2008.

“Religious Fundamentalism,” Common Ground, 26 February 2008.

Faculty facilitator, Spring President’s Book Club discussion, Spring 2007.

Panel discussion, “The Da Vinci Code,” DePaul University, 22 May 2006.

Panel discussion, “Jerusalem and Sacred Religious Texts,” DePaul University, 21 February 2005.

Panel discussion of Mel Gibson’s *The Passion of the Christ*, DePaul University, 8 April 2004.

Lectures on the Gospel of Luke, St. James Parish, Arlington Heights, Adult Education, 13, 20, 27 January 2004

Interviews

Daniel Gaitan, “Jesus Wept. Why?” Life Matters Media (<http://www.lifemattersmedia.org/2013/12/jesus-wept-but-why/>) (December 7, 2013).

Eric Ferkenhoff, “Faith on Campus: Spirituality, Religion and Us,” DePaul Magazine (Winter 2006).

Kristin Brown, “The Gospel of Judas,” WYCC/Northwestern, 12 April 2006.

Mark Pattison, “Gospel of Judas said not likely to resolve any theological debates,” Catholic News Service, 11 April 2006.

Other Professional Activities

External reviewer of grant proposal, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC), Winter 2016.

Steering Committee, Corpus Hellenisticum Novi Testamenti section, Society of Biblical Literature (2012-2014)

Presiding, Corpus Hellenisticum Novi Testamenti session, Society of Biblical Literature annual meeting, 19 November 2012; Theme: Magic and the Magical in the Corpus Hellenisticum and the New Testament

Chair, Corpus Hellenisticum Novi Testamenti section, Society of Biblical Literature (2004 to 2011)

Presiding, Corpus Hellenisticum Novi Testamenti session, Society of Biblical Literature national meeting, 22 November 2010; Theme: Open Papers

Presiding, Corpus Hellenisticum Novi Testamenti session, Society of Biblical Literature national meeting, 22 November 2010; Theme: Open Papers

Presiding, Corpus Hellenisticum Novi Testamenti session, Society of Biblical Literature national meeting, 23 November 2009; Theme: The Manchester-Durham Project
Typology of Anonymous and Pseudepigraphic Jewish Literature of Antiquity

Presiding, Corpus Hellenisticum Novi Testamenti session, Society of Biblical Literature national meeting, 17-20 November 2007; Theme: Open Papers

Presiding, Corpus Hellenisticum Novi Testamenti session, Society of Biblical Literature national meeting, 18-21 November 2006; Theme: Open Papers

Convener, Association of Chicago Theological Schools, New Testament discussion group (2003-2004; 2004-2005)

Tutor, Ivy League Tutoring, Chicago, IL, 1999-2000

Consultant for development of college-level instructional material, 1995-1996 (advised ETPC, Seattle, WA, on instructional content and presentation for computer course in New Testament Greek)

Editorial assistant, *Westminster Theological Journal*, 1988

Awards and Recognitions

Honors Distinguished Faculty 2014-2017.

Summer Faculty Research and Development Grant, DePaul University College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Summer 2010, “Alexander the Prophet of Glycon and Paul the Apostle of Christ Jesus in the History of Religions of the Early Roman Empire”

Summer Faculty Research and Development Grant, DePaul University College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Summer 2007, “Manufacturing Belief: Spirit Possession and Magic in the Religion of Paul”

Summer Faculty Research and Development Grant, DePaul University College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Summer 2005, “Rituals of Power in Early Christianity: Spirit Possession, Magic, and Heresy in the Second Century”

Summer Faculty Research and Development Grant, DePaul University College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Summer 2003, “Spirit Possession and Magic: Rethinking the Social Construction of the Religious Experience of the Apostle Paul and his Communities”

Harper Fellowship, University of Chicago, 1993-94

Century Fellowship, University of Chicago, 1989-93

Ned B. Stonehouse Fellowship, Westminster Theological Seminary, 1986-87

Memberships in Professional Organizations

Society of Biblical Literature

Directed Student Learning

** Independent Study, Fall 2016, Jared Teschner (Irenaeus and the Gospel of Judas).

Supervisor, Summer Undergraduate Research Grant, Jared Teschner, Summer 2015.

Service

University:

- ** Member, Status of the Faculty Committee (2016-2017)
- ** Member, Liberal Studies Program Religious Dimensions Domain Committee (2016-2017)
- ** Honors Conference Committee, Honors Student Conference session moderator (Spring 2017)
- Member, Status of the Faculty Committee (2015-2016)
- Honors Conference Committee, Honors Student Conference session moderator (Spring 2016)
- Honors Conference Committee, Honors Student Conference session moderator and coach (Spring 2015)
- Chair, Liberal Studies Program Religious Dimensions Domain Committee (2014-2015)
- Honors Program, annual assessment project (Spring 2014)
- Chair, Liberal Studies Program Religious Dimensions Domain Committee (2013-2014)
- Chair, Liberal Studies Program Religious Dimensions Domain Committee (2012-2013)
- Chair, Liberal Studies Program Religious Dimensions Domain Committee (2011-2012)
- Chair, Liberal Studies Program Religious Dimensions Domain Committee (2010-2011)
- Member, Liberal Studies Program Religious Dimensions Domain Committee (2002 to 2010)
- Liberal Studies Program Summer Writing Workshops – for implementation of new writing standards in the Liberal Studies Program Domains (2006)
- Chair (acting), Liberal Studies Program Religious Dimensions Domain Committee (Autumn 2004)
- Member, ad hoc committee on revision of University Honors Program (Spring 2004)

College:

- ** LAS Task Force on Document Review and Reconciliation (Fall 2016)
- LAS Task Force on Document Review and Reconciliation (2015-2016)

LAS Vision 2018 Focus on Faculty Task Force (2012-2013)

Organizer of the panel discussion, “Exporting Christianity? Four DePaul Professors Discuss St. Paul,” DePaul University, 17 February 2009

Participant, Catholic Studies Program (2002 to 2007)

Member, ad hoc committee on teacher-scholar model at DePaul (summer 2006)

LAS Governance Council (two-year term, calendar years 2004 and 2005)

Convener, LAS Governance Council Teaching, Research, and Service Task Force (2005)

Department:

** Member, Curriculum, Teaching and Assessment Committee (2016-2017)

** As Chair, Faculty Handbook Revision Committee from 2014-2015, in Fall 2016 I revised the department handbook in light of comments from the LAS Task Force on Document Review and Reconciliation

Member, Curriculum, Teaching and Assessment Committee (2015-2016)

Chair, Faculty Handbook Revision Committee (2014-2015)

Member, Curriculum, Teaching and Assessment Committee (2013-2014)

Member, Curriculum, Teaching and Assessment Committee (2012-2013)

Speaker, Department Teaching Development Seminar (Winter Quarter 2012)

Member, Curriculum, Teaching and Assessment Committee (2011-2012)

Member, Curriculum, Teaching and Assessment Committee (2010-2011)

Member, Curriculum, Teaching and Assessment Committee (2009-2010)

Member, Curriculum and Assessment Committee (2008-2009)

Chair, Personnel Committee (2008-2009)

Member, Personnel Committee (2006-2007; 2007-2008)

Member, Procedures for Faculty Searches Committee (2007)

Member, Curriculum and Assessment Committee (2006-2007)

Member, Curriculum and Assessment Committee (2005-2006)

Chair, Curriculum and Assessment Committee (2004-2005)

Member, Future Directions Committee (2004-2005)

Chair, Future Directions Committee (2003-2004)

Chair, Library Committee (2003-2004)

Member, Curriculum and Assessment Committee (2002-2003)

Library liaison for Religious Studies (2002-2003)

Interviewer at 2002 AAR meeting in Toronto for “Religion and Violence” search