

Rachel A. Heath

Ph.D. Candidate in Theological Studies
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EDUCATION

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| (Ph.D.) | (2022) | Vanderbilt University, Graduate School of Arts & Sciences
Graduate School of Religion, Theological Studies
<i>Working Title:</i> Should Christianity Be Saved?: The Lure of Superiority in a World of Multiplicity
<i>Dissertation Advisor:</i> Laurel C. Schneider
<i>Minor Area of Study:</i> Critical Studies in World Religions, with a focus Place-based Epistemologies, Pilgrimage, and Affect
<i>Minor Advisor:</i> Tony K. Stewart |
| M.A. | 2020 | Vanderbilt University, Graduate School of Arts & Sciences
Graduate School of Religion, Theological Studies |
| M.Div. | 2011 | Yale University Divinity School |
| | 2010 | Yale Institute of Sacred Music, <i>Certificate in Religion and the Arts</i> |
| B.A. | 2007 | Lee University (Cleveland, TN)
Majors: English & Theological Studies
Minors: Philosophy & Psychology |

PUBLICATIONS: ARTICLES & BOOK REVIEWS

Peer Reviewed Articles

- 2017 “Multiple Religious Belonging and Theologies of Multiplicity: Confluences of Oneness and Porosity.” *Journal of Interreligious Studies* 21 (March 2017): 23-36. <http://irstudies.org>
- 2016 “Lessons in Multifaith Chaplaincy and Feminist Thought: Making Room for Multiple Religious Belonging in Interfaith Praxis.” *Journal of Interreligious Studies* 20 (October 2016): 71-79. <http://irstudies.org>

Book Chapter

- 2020 “The Power of Place, During a Pandemic: Relation, Difference, and Entanglement in Multifaith and Interreligious Encounter.” *Deep Understanding for Divisive Times*. Newton Centre, MA: Paraclete Press, 2020. Pgs. 45-50.

Book Reviews

- 2019 *The Mary Daly Reader*, edited by Jennifer Rycenga and Linda Barufaldi in *The Religious Studies Review* at Rice University, Vol. 45, No. 1, March 2019.
- 2015 *Transforming Students: The Promise of Higher Education*, by Charity Johansson and Peter Felten, in *Reflective Teaching: the Online Journal of the Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning in Theology and Religion*, Spring 2015.
- 2011 *Enfleshing Freedom: Body, Race, and Being* (2010), by M. Shawn Copeland in *The Ecumenist: A Journal of Theology, Culture, and Society* Vol. 48 No. 2, Spring 2011.

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

- 2021 Martin Marty Center at the University of Chicago & Interfaith Youth Core
Typologies of Interfaith Education, panelist
“The View from Emerging Scholars”
<https://divinity.uchicago.edu/martin-marty-center/conferences-and-events/typologies>
- 2019 Elon University (Burlington, NC), Ripple Conference, panelist and guest speaker
“Current Horizons in Interfaith Engagement: Imagining New Narratives, Embodying Multiple Identities”

ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS

- 2020 **Paper Presentation**, American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting (virtual), Interfaith and Interreligious Studies Program Unit, Decolonizing and Resetting the Interfaith Table: “Decentered Inclusivity: The Limits and Possibilities of Multifaith Work in College and University Chaplaincies”
- 2019 **Paper Presentation**, American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting (San Diego, CA), Exploratory Session: Mary Daly: Contributions and Controversies
“Mary Daly, Process Thought, and Creative Ontologies”
Paper Presentation, American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting (San Diego, CA), Lesbian-Feminisms in Religion Program Unit, Audre Lorde: Lesbian-Feminist, Theo-Poetics
“Audre Lorde: The Place of Difference in the Poetics of a Life”
Panelist, Association for Interreligious and Interfaith Studies annual meeting (San Diego, CA)
“Emerging Scholars in Interfaith Studies”
- 2018 **Panelist**, Parliament of the World’s Religions (Toronto, Canada),
“The Multifaith Imperative: Educating Next Generation Religious Leaders”
- 2018 **Paper Presentation**, International Karl Barth Conference hosted by the Center for Barth Studies at Princeton Theological Seminary and Stellenbosch University (Stellenbosch, South Africa),
“The Right Side of History: Barth’s Wholly Other God, Queer Theory, and Movements for Social Justice in the Here and Now”
- 2016 **Paper Presentation**, American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting (San Antonio, TX), Interfaith and Interreligious Studies Group,
“Multiple Religious Belonging and Theologies of Multiplicity: Queer Thoughts on Religious Identities and Privilege”
- 2015 **Panelist**, American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting (Atlanta, GA), Interfaith and Interreligious Studies Group, Session: Religious Pluralism and Feminist/Womanist/Mujerista Theologies
“Indecent Possibilities: Feminist Theology, Queer Identities, and Interfaith Praxis”
- 2015 **Respondent**, Alternative Epistemologies Workshop at the University of Chicago, April 2015
“What Have the Politics of Monotheism to do with Democracy?” (Bruce Woll)

- 2015 **Presenter**, Alternative Epistemologies Workshop at the University of Chicago, Council for Advanced Studies, May 2015
“Is ‘Interfaith’ Inherently Patriarchal?”
- 2014 **Presenter**, UChicago 101s at the University of Chicago Divinity School, March 2014
“Feminist Christian Theology 101”
- 2011 **Colloquium Presentation**, Yale Institute of Sacred Music, March 2010
“Song as Symbol: Imagining Reconciliation Through Music and Theology in Post-Apartheid South Africa”

OTHER MEDIA

- 2020 **Honeybear Speaks Podcast**, interview
“Running with the Judge”
<https://soundcloud.com/user-541980230/honey-bear-speaks-episode-108-running-with-the-judge?fbclid=IwAR2Yj7cPkIvjWK-Nqyg0BUwq8jeCoADN8zT78zz3LavasvY7Qp2C98kXC-8>
- 2013 **Interfaith Observer** (electronic journal)
Contributor, “Cultivating and Transforming the Next Generation of Interfaith Leaders,”
<http://www.theinterfaithobserver.org/journal-articles/2013/3/15/cultivating-the-next-generation-of-interfaith-leaders.html>
- 2010 **State of Formation: online forum for emerging ethical and religious leaders**
Contributing Scholar (2010– 2011)
<https://stateofformation.org/author/rachel-a-heath/>

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- Spring 2021 **Teaching Assistant, Queer Theologies**
Vanderbilt Divinity School
Professor Laurel C. Schneider
- Fall 2020 **Teaching Assistant, Foundations of Theological Education**
Digital Content
Vanderbilt Divinity School
Professors Trudy Hawkins-Stringer, Stacey Floyd-Thomas, Juan Floyd-Thomas, and Graham Reside
- Fall 2019-Spring 2020 **Teaching Assistant, Supervised Ministry Seminar**
Vanderbilt Divinity School
Viki Matson, Director of Field Education and Assistant Professor of the Practice of Ministry
- Fall 2017 **Teaching Assistant, Encountering Religious Diversity**
Vanderbilt University
Tony K. Stewart, Chair of Religious Studies
- Fall 2015-Spring 2016 **Guest Facilitator, Practicum for Field Education**
University of Chicago Divinity School
Wesley Sun, Director of Field Education and Community Engagement

Spring 2011

Teaching Fellow, Modern Christian Thought

Yale University

*Shannon Craigo-Snell, Assistant Professor in Religious Studies***OTHER SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS**

- 2018 **Guest Speaker**, St. Augustine's Episcopal Chaplaincy at Vanderbilt, Lenten Series, March 2018
- 2016 **Guest Speaker**, "Queering Open Space(s)," Open Space at the University of Chicago Divinity School, May 2016
- 2015 **Guest Speaker**, "Dialectical Tensions and Interfaith Relations: Or, Are We All Supposed to Just 'Get Along' with Each Other?," Brent House Episcopal Chaplaincy at the University of Chicago, October 2015
- 2015 **Co-facilitator**, "Active Listening," Social Change Student Leadership Retreat at the University of Chicago, May 2015
- 2014 **Speaker**, "Interfaith Student Leadership Development," Spiritual Life Council Retreat, Spiritual Life Office at the University of Chicago, October 2014
- 2014 **Co-facilitator**, "Community Service and Diverse Religious Traditions," University Community Service Center at the University of Chicago, February 2014
- 2013 **Spiritual Address**, "The Nature of Things," Rockefeller Chapel at the University of Chicago, July 2013

ACADEMIC INVOLVEMENT (RECENT & PROFESSIONAL)

- 2019-present **Journal of Interreligious Studies**, Board of Advisors
- 2018-present **Lesbian-Feminisms in Religion Program Unit**, Steering Committee, American Academy of Religion
- 2018-present **Association for Interfaith/Interreligious Studies**, Leadership Council, *Emerging Scholars Initiative*, Spring 2018-present
- 2018-2019 **Search Committee for the Dean of Religious Life and Chaplain to the University**, Vanderbilt University
- 2018 **Peer Reviewer**, *South Asia: Journal of South Asian Studies*
- 2018-present **Peer Reviewer**, *Journal of Interreligious Studies*
- 2017-2019 **Religious Affairs Committee**, Appointed Member, Vanderbilt University
- 2016-present **Research Assistant for Theological Studies**, Vanderbilt University
Laurel Schneider, 2016-present
Ellen Armour, 2017
- 2016 **Multifaith Working Group Co-Facilitator**, University of Chicago Divinity School, student and faculty curriculum review project (April-June 2016)
- 2015-2017 **National Association of College and University Chaplains (NACUC)** Executive Committee, New Member Representative
- 2015-2016 **Supervisory Committee Member** for Nora Zaki (M.Div. '17, Muslim tradition, University of Chicago Divinity School)
- 2014-2015 **University Committee for Religious Affairs (UCRA)**, Chicago-Area Colleges and Universities, Executive Committee

2013-2014 **Co-Supervisor for Field Education**, Jem Jebbia (M.Div. '15, Zen Buddhist tradition, University of Chicago Divinity School)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2015-2016 **Academic Adviser**, Dean of Students Office, The College, University of Chicago (Chicago, IL)
 2015-2016 **Multifaith "Open Space" Coordinator**, University of Chicago Divinity School (Chicago, IL)
 2013-2015 **Spiritual Life Coordinator**, Spiritual Life Office and Rockefeller Chapel, University of Chicago (Chicago, IL)
 2012-2013 **National Interfaith Conference Coordinator** for College and University Students ("Coming Together 6"), Spiritual Life Office and Rockefeller Chapel, University of Chicago (Chicago, IL)
 2011-2012 **Shift Manager**, Blue State Coffee Company (New Haven, CT)
 2009-2011 **Multifaith Programs Intern**, Yale University Chaplain's Office (New Haven, CT)
 2010 **Clinical Pastoral Education Chaplaincy Intern**, Bridgeport Hospital (Bridgeport, CT)

AWARDS, GRANTS & HONORS

2016-present **Theology & Practice Fellowship**, Vanderbilt University
 2016-present **Harold Stirling Vanderbilt Scholarship**, Vanderbilt University
 2016-2017 **Doris K. and W. Edward Farley Scholarship**, Vanderbilt University
 2015 **Outstanding Service to Students Award**, Campus & Student Life at the University of Chicago, June 2015
 2014 **Staff Innovation Grant**, Campus & Student Life at the University of Chicago, January 2014 *and* May 2014
 2011 **Fellowships at Auschwitz for the Study of Professional Ethics**, Seminarian Fellow, Summer 2011
 2010-2011 **Samuel N. Slie Fellowship**, Yale Divinity School, 2010-2011
 2009 **Symposium on Educating Religious Leaders for a Multi-Religious World**, funded by the Henry Luce Foundation, Yale Divinity School Representative, Parliament of the World's Religions (Melbourne, Australia), Fall 2009
 2008-2010 **Yale Institute of Sacred Music Fellowship**, Yale University, 2008-2010
 2007 **F.J. Lee Award**, *highest honor for a graduating student*, Lee University, May 2007
 2007 **Department of Theology Highest Achievement Award**, School of Religion at Lee University, May 2007

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

2015- American Academy of Religion (AAR)
 2014- National Association of College and University Chaplains (NACUC)