

## **Melissa M. Wilcox, Ph.D.**

Department of Religious Studies, University of California Riverside  
900 University Avenue  
Riverside, CA 92521, USA  
w: +1.951.827.7969 – e: melissa.wilcox@ucr.edu  
<http://religiousstudies.ucr.edu/full-time-faculty/melissa-m-wilcox/fqrs.blog> – @melissamwilcox

### **EDUCATION**

**Ph.D. 2000** University of California Santa Barbara, Religious Studies  
**M.A. 1996** Claremont Graduate School, Women's Studies in Religion  
**B.S. 1993** Stanford University, Biological Sciences

### **EMPLOYMENT**

**2019-2027** Chair, Department of Religious Studies, University of California, Riverside  
**2017-present** Affiliated Faculty, Department of Gender and Sexuality Studies, UC Riverside  
**2016-present** Professor and Holstein Family and Community Chair of Religious Studies, UC Riverside  
**2010-2013** Chair, Religion Department, Whitman College  
**2009-2016** Associate Professor of Religion and Gender Studies and Garrett Fellow, Whitman College  
**2006-2013** Director of Gender Studies, Whitman College  
**2005-2009** Assistant Professor of Religion and Gender Studies, Whitman College  
**2004-2005** Visiting Assistant Professor of Religion, Whitman College  
**2003-2004** Johnston Visiting Professor of Religion, Whitman College  
**2002-2003** Faculty, UC Santa Barbara Fulbright Summer Institute on American Religion  
**2002-2003** Lecturer in Religious Studies, Women's Studies, Sociology, and Black Studies, UC Santa Barbara  
**2000-2002** Faculty Fellow, Department of Religious Studies, University of California Santa Barbara

### **PUBLICATIONS—BOOKS**

*The Palgrave Handbook of Queer and Transgender Studies in Religion*. New York: Palgrave MacMillan, expected 2025 (under contract).  
*Religion, the Body, and Sexuality*. Co-authored with Nina Hoel and Liz Wilson. New York: Routledge, 2020.  
*Queer Religiosities: An Introduction to Queer and Transgender Studies in Religion*. Lanham, Md.: Rowman and Littlefield, 2020.  
*Queer Nuns: Religion, Activism, and Serious Parody*. Sexual Cultures Series. New York: New York University Press, 2018.  
*Religion in Today's World: Global Issues, Sociological Perspectives*. New York: Routledge, 2013.  
*Queer Women and Religious Individualism*. Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2009.  
Winner of 2010 Book Award, ASA Sociology of Religion Section.  
*Coming Out in Christianity: Religion, Identity, and Community*. Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2003.  
*Sexuality and the World's Religions*, ed. with David W. Machacek. Goleta, CA: ABC-CLIO, 2003.

## SENIOR EDITORIAL WORK

Founding co-editor, *QTR: A Journal of Trans and Queer Studies in Religion* (Duke University Press) with Joseph A. Marchal, 2021-present.

Founding co-editor, *Hauntings: Trans, Queer, Religion* (NYU Press Book Series), with Ashon T. Crawley and Tamara C. Ho. November 2021-present.

## PUBLICATIONS—FILM AND PERFORMANCE

“Anonymous/Invisible.” Performance piece on intimate partner violence. Premiered February 2014 at Whitman College. Also performed under the direction of Professor Jessica Cerullo, October 9, 2014, Whitman College, Walla Walla, WA.

*Each of Us* (Directed). DVD, 54 min., 2006. Documentary on religion in the lives of lesbians, bisexual women, and transgender people in Los Angeles.

## PUBLICATIONS—JOURNAL ISSUES

Terrorist Assemblages *Meets the Study of Religion: Rethinking Queer Studies*. Special issue of *Culture and Religion*, edited and wrote introduction. Vol. 15, no. 2 (2014).

*Queer Perspectives on New Religious Movements*. Special issue of *Nova Religio*, ed. with David W. Machacek. Vol. 11, no. 4 (2008).

*Queer Cultures and Religion*. Special issue of *Culture and Religion*, ed. with Elizabeth Currans. Vol. 5, no. 2 (2004).

## PUBLICATIONS—ARTICLES, CHAPTERS, AND REVIEWS

### *Refereed Articles*

“(The) Discipline and the Confessional: Toward Methodological Numenism and an Engaged, Embodied Study of Religion.” *Journal of the American Academy of Religion*, forthcoming 2024.

“Words Kill: Sex and the Definition of U.S. Religion.” *American Religion* 1, Vol. 1 (2019), 5-26.

“Laws of Gender: Parody and Resistance in Times of Scandal.” *The Immanent Frame*, 26 February 2019. Available online: <https://tif.ssrc.org/2019/02/26/laws-of-gender-parody-and-resistance-in-times-of-scandal/>.

“Religion is Already Transed; Religious Studies is not (Yet) Listening.” *Journal of Feminist Studies in Religion* 34, no. 1 (2018), 84-88.

“Is This All There is to Talk About?” *The Immanent Frame*, 3 November 2017. Available online: <https://tif.ssrc.org/2017/11/03/is-this-all-there-is-to-talk-about/>.

“Methodological Promiscuity and Undisciplined Intellectual Orgies,” *Scholar & Feminist Online* 14, no. 2 (2017). Available online: <http://sfoonline.barnard.edu/queer-religion/>.

“The Separation of Church and Sex: Conservative Catholics and the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence.” *e-misférica* 13, no. 1 (2017). Available online: <https://hemisphericinstitute.net/es/emisferica/emisferica-131/4525-the-separation-of-church-and-sex-conservative-catholics-and-the-sisters-of-perpetual-indulgence-es.html>.

“*Religio*: The Ties that Bind.” Roundtable essay, *Critical Research on Religion* 4, no. 3 (2016), 286-91.

- “Introduction: Terrorist Assemblages Meets the Study of Religion.” *Culture and Religion* 15, no. 2 (2014), 153-157.
- “Sexuality, Gender, and Religious Attendance.” *Fieldwork in Religion* 7, no. 2 (2013), 102-116.
- “‘Spiritual Sluts’: Uncovering Gender, Ethnicity, and Sexuality in the Postsecular.” *Women’s Studies* 41, no. 6 (2012), 639-659.
- “Bodily Transgressions: Ritual and Agency in Self-Injury.” *Scholar & Feminist Online* 9, no. 3 (2011).
- “Introduction: Queering the Study of New Religious Movements.” Co-authored with David W. Machacek. *Nova Religio* Vol. 11, no. 4 (2008), 3-7.
- “Outlaws or In-Laws? Queer Theory, LGBT Studies, and Religious Studies.” *Journal of Homosexuality* 52, nos. 1/2 (2006), 73-100.
- “When Sheila’s a Lesbian: Religious Individualism among Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Christians.” *Sociology of Religion* 63, no. 4 (2002), 497-513.
- “Murderers and Martyrs: Violence, Discourse, and the (Re)construction of Meaning.” *Culture and Religion* 2, no. 2 (2001), 155-178.
- “Of Markets and Missions: The Early History of the Metropolitan Community Church.” *Religion and American Culture* 11, no. 1 (2001), 83-108.

### **Refereed Book Chapters**

- “Ecstasies: Or, the Limitations of Vanilla Spirituality Studies.” In *Situating Spirituality: Contexts, Practice, and Power*, ed. Jaime Kucinskis, Brian Steensland, and Anna Sun, 194-209. New York: Oxford University Press, 2022.
- “Devotional Objects from the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence.” In *Queer Objects: An International Edited Collection on LGBT Material Culture*, ed. Chris Brickell and Judith Collard, 307-13. Dunedin, NZ: University of Otago Press; Manchester, England: Manchester University Press; New Brunswick, N.J.: Rutgers University Press (simultaneous international release), 2020.
- “LGBT Christians.” In *The Bloomsbury Companion to Studying Christians*, ed. Stephen E. Gregg and George D. Chryssides, 207-11. New York: Bloomsbury, 2020.
- “Consuming Spirituality: SBNR and Neoliberal Logic in Queer Communities.” In *Being Spiritual but not Religious: Past, Present, Future(s)*, ed. William B. Parsons, 128-45. New York: Routledge, 2018.
- “Contestations, Reinscriptions: Negotiating the Worlds of Sexuality and Religion in the U.S.” In *The Ashgate Research Companion to Sexuality and Religion*, ed. Stephen J. Hunt and Andrew K. T. Yip, 305-318. Aldershot: Ashgate, 2012.
- “Researching LGBTQ Populations and Religion: Ethics, Recruitment, and Research Design.” In *Researching Homosexualities*, ed. Constantinos N. Phellas, 27-39. Aldershot, U.K.: Ashgate, 2012.
- “Spirituality, Activism, and the ‘Postsecular’ in the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence.” In *Religion, Gender, and Sexuality in Everyday Life*, ed. Andrew K. T. Yip and Peter Nynäs, 37-50. Aldershot: Ashgate, 2012.
- “Queer Theory and the Study of Religion.” In *Queer Religion*, ed. Donald Boisvert and Jay Emerson Johnson, 227-251. Westport, CT: Praeger, 2011.
- “Gender Roles, Sexuality, and Children in Millennial Movements.” In *The Oxford Handbook on Millennialism*, ed. Catherine Wessinger (20 pp.). New York: Oxford University Press, 2011.
- “Queering the Mainstream, Mainstreaming the Queer: LGBT People and Religion in the U.S.” In *American Faith: Changes, Challenges, and a New Spirituality*, ed. Charles H. Lippy, 104-128. Westport, CT: Greenwood, 2006.

- “Same-Sex Eroticism and Gender Fluidity in New and Alternative Religions.” In *New and Alternative Religions in the United States*, ed. Eugene V. Gallagher and W. Michael Ashcraft, 243-263. Westport, CT: Praeger/Greenwood, 2006.
- “Discourse Bless America: Rebuilding the National Mythos after September 11.” In *Religion, Politics, and the American Experience: New Perspectives, New Directions*, ed. David S. Gutterman and Andrew R. Murphy, 25-48. Lanham, Md.: Lexington, 2006.
- “A Religion of One’s Own: Gender and LGBT Religiosities.” In *Gay Religion: Innovation and Continuity in Spiritual Practice*, ed. Scott Thumma and Edward R. Gray, 203-220. Walnut Creek, Calif.: Alta Mira, 2004.
- “Dancing on the Fence: Researching Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Christians.” In *Personal Knowledge and Beyond: Reshaping the Ethnography of Religion*, ed. James V. Spickard, J. Shawn Landres, and Meredith B. McGuire, 47-62. New York: NYU Press, 2001.

### **Reference Articles**

- “Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence.” In *The World Religions and Spirituality Project*, ed. David Bromley. Posted 21 December 2018. Available online: <https://wrldrels.org/2018/12/21/sisters-of-perpetual-indulgence/>.
- “Homosexuality and Religion.” In *The International Encyclopedia of Human Sexuality*, ed. Mark LaFlaur. Malden, Mass.: Wiley-Blackwell, 2015.
- “Sexuality, Religion and.” In *The Encyclopedia of Sociology*, ed. George Ritzer and J. Michael Ryan. London: Blackwell, 2009.
- “Women’s Roles in New Religions.” In *The Encyclopedia of Sex and Gender*, ed. Fedwa Malti-Douglas. New York: Macmillan, 2007.
- “Religion and Sexuality.” In *The Blackwell Encyclopedia of Sociology*, ed. George Ritzer. Oxford: Blackwell, 2007.
- “Catholics and Catholicism”; “LGBTQ Churches, Temples, and Religious Groups”; “Perry, Troy.” In *Encyclopedia of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender History in America*. New York: Charles Scribner’s Sons, 2003.
- “Gay and Lesbian Congregations.” In *Reader’s Guide to Lesbian and Gay Studies*, ed. Timothy Murphy. Chicago: Fitzroy Dearborn, 2000.
- “Metropolitan Community Church.” In *Contemporary American Religion*, ed. Wade Clark Roof. New York: Macmillan, 1999.

### **Non-Refereed Articles, Blog Entries, and Public Intellectual Work**

- Ongoing occasional blogging at *FQRS: Feminist, Queer Religious Studies*.
- “Two Words: Gender Theory.” *Religious Studies Review* 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary volume, expected 2024 (invited).
- Contributor, *Queer Religious Pasts* – An international scholar/activist digital humanities project. More information here: <https://queer-religious-pasts.univ-paris8.fr/-contributions-> 2022-present.
- “Sacralizing Sexualized Bodies.” *Religious Education*, 116, no. 3 (2021), 217-23.
- “Theory in the Interstices: Queering and Transing Religious Studies, Religioning Trans and Queer Studies.” Temenos Lecture, published in *Temenos Nordic Journal of Comparative Religion* vol. 56, no. 1 (2020), 119-46. Available online: <https://journal.fi/temenos/article/view/91485>.
- “Story-Telling and Story-Hearing.” OUTing the Past Festival blog entry, 16 March 2018. Available online: <http://www.outingthepast.org.uk/academic/otp2018-conference-spotlight-melissa-wilcox/>.

- “Biopolitics, Necropolitics, and Disavowed State Religion,” Proceedings: Fifth Biennial Conference on Religion and American Culture, (Indianapolis: Center for the study of Religion and American Culture, 2017), 30-32. Available online: <https://raac.iupui.edu/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/Proceedings2017.pdf>.
- “The Sisters from An(other) Academic’s Perspective,” *RFD*, 2017.
- “Having Our Own Backs.” *Religious Studies News*, 30 March 2016. Available online: <http://rsn.aarweb.org/guide-guild/having-our-own-backs>.
- “What Are You Going to Do with *That*?” *Religious Studies News*, 20 October 2015. Available online: <http://rsn.aarweb.org/articles/what-are-you-going-do-with-that>.
- “Silence = Death: Coming Out of the Queer IPV Closet.” *Huffington Post*, October 6, 2014. Available online: [http://www.huffingtonpost.com/melissa-m-wilcox/silence-death-coming-out\\_b\\_5921532.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/melissa-m-wilcox/silence-death-coming-out_b_5921532.html).
- “LGBTTSQQIAA: Figuring Out the ‘Alphabet Soup’ of Sexual and Gender Identity Terms.” *Contexts*, 2014.
- “Parodic Politics.” *The Immanent Frame*, 2010. Available online: <http://blogs.ssrc.org/tif/2010/08/06/parodic-politics/>.
- “‘Really Different’: Freaks and Queers in the Study of Religion.” *Bulletin for the Study of Religion* 39, no. 4 (2010).
- “Negotiating Social Power in the Classroom.” *CSSR Bulletin* 32, no. 4 (2003).

### **Book Reviews**

- “The Sex Obsession: Perversity and Possibility in American Politics.” Book review, *Journal of the American Academy of Religion* 89, no. 2 (2021), 749-52.
- “Blackpentecostal Breath: The Aesthetics of Possibility.” Book review, *Reading Religion*, 2017. Review essay on sexuality studies in religion (Moslener, *Virgin Nation*; Petro, *After the Wrath of God*; Vasey-Saunders, *The Scandal of Evangelicals and Homosexuality*; White, *Reforming Sodom*), *Journal of Contemporary Religion* 32, no. 2 (2017), 325-30.
- “Globalized Religion and Sexual Identity: Contexts, Contestations, Voices.” Book review, *Journal of Contemporary Religion* (2016).
- “Spaces Between Us: Queer Settler Colonialism and Indigenous Decolonization.” Book review, *Journal of the History of Sexuality* vol. 23, no. 2 (2014).
- “Religious and Sexual Identities: A Multi-faith Exploration of Young Adults.” Book review, *Journal of Contemporary Religion* (2014).
- “Queer Inclusion in the United Methodist Church.” Book review, *Contemporary Sociology* (2006).
- “Queering Creole Spiritual Traditions.” Book review, *Journal of Contemporary Religion* (2005).
- “Queer Theory and the Jewish Question” and “The Queer God.” Book reviews, *Nova Religio* 8, no. 3 (2005).
- “Expressions of Ethnography: Novel Approaches to Qualitative Methods.” Book review, *Contemporary Sociology* 33, no. 5 (2004).
- “Weathering Change: Gays and Lesbians, Christian Conservatives, and Everyday Hostilities.” Book review, *Sociology of Religion* 65, no. 4 (2004).
- “The Silence of Sodom: Homosexuality in Modern Catholicism.” Book review, *Journal of the American Academy of Religion* 70, no. 4 (2002).
- “Que(e)rying Religion: A Critical Anthology.” Book review, *Sociology of Religion* 63, no. 1 (2002).

## GRANTS, AWARDS, AND HONORS

- 2024** Keynote address, “Religion beyond Binary: Religious Studies, Study of Religion(s), and Non-Binary Genders, Methodologies, Approaches, and Perspectives,” Frankfurt, Germany, July 2024.  
Henry Luce Foundation Grant for “Queer and Trans Religion: Connecting Diverse Knowledge Makers.” Co-PI with J Marchal. \$300,000.  
UCR Senate Research and Travel Award for “Devotions: Spirituality and Religion in LGBTIQ Leather and BDSM Communities.” \$850.  
Annual Gender Lecturer/Annual Research Lecturer, Centre for Gender Studies and Feminist Futures/Interdisciplinary Centre for the Study of Religions, Phillips University, Marburg, Germany, June 2024.  
Distinguished Lecturer, Program for the Study of Religion, University of California, San Diego, February 2024.
- 2023** Keynote address, Autumn school, “The Anthropology of Gender, Sexuality, and Religion,” Friedrich Alexander Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg, September 2023.  
Henry Luce Foundation Grant for “Launching *QTR: A Journal of Queer and Transgender Studies in Religion*.” Co-PI with J Marchal. \$100,000.
- 2021** Henry Luce Foundation Grant for “Queer and Trans Studies in Religion in the 2020s: Defining the State of the Field.” \$30,000.  
Advancing Faculty Diversity Recruitment Grant, UC Office of the President. Co-PI. \$496,570 for “Advancing Faculty Diversity and Epistemologies in Black Study, Health & Environmental Inequities.”  
Keynote Address, Religion, Values, and Society Autumn School: Lived Religion: Power and Protest, November 2021 (online).  
Keynote Address, En-Gendering the Past, Heidelberg, Germany (online), August 2021.  
UC Humanities Research Institute Multicampus Faculty Working Group Grant for “Queer and Trans Studies in Religion in the 2020s: Defining the State of the Field.” \$5,000.  
UC Riverside Center for Ideas and Society Book Club Grant. \$300.
- 2020** Keynote Address, Transgressive Religion Network, Paris, France, June 2020 (postponed to 2021 and moved online due to COVID-19)  
Castañeda-Jennings Lecture, Chicago Theological Seminary, May 2020 (postponed to 2021 and moved online due to COVID-19)
- 2019** Temenos Lecture, Finnish Society for the Study of Religion/keynote speaker, “Queer Shepherds – Pervot Paimenet – Queera Herdar” Conference (Joint meeting of the XII Seminar & International Autumn School of the Society of Queer Studies in Finland, the Finnish Society of the Study of Religion, and the International Association for Religion and Gender), September 2019.  
Plenary roundtable speaker, Encuentro 2019: The World Inside Out: Humor, Noise, and Performance.” Mexico City, Mexico, June 2019.  
Invited speaker, Religion Department, Wesleyan University, May 2019  
Invited speaker, Religion and Sexuality speakers’ series, Fordham University, April 2019  
Invited participant, “Social Dimensions of Spirituality” conference, Indiana University-Purdue University at Indianapolis, April 2019  
Invited participant, “Taking Exception: Queering American Religions III” conference, Universidad Autónoma de México, March 2019

- Invited speaker, Women, Gender and Sexuality reading group, Religions and Cultures Department, Concordia University, March 2019
- 2018** Keynote speaker, “Sovereignty and Strangeness” conference, Northwestern University, October 2018
- Invited participant, American Religions Speakers’ Series, Columbia University, May 2018
- Keynote speaker, “(Re)Sister Week,” Purdue University, April 2018
- Invited participant, “Taking Exception: Queering American Religion II” conference, Indiana University Bloomington, April 2018
- Invited speaker, Intersectional Centre for Inclusion and Social Justice (INCISE), Canterbury Christ Church University, UK, March 2018
- 2017** Rufus Monroe and Sofie Hoegaard Paine Lecture, Department of Religious Studies, University of Missouri, November 2017
- Invited participant, Biennial Conference on Religion and American Culture, Center for the Study of Religion and American Culture, Indiana University-Purdue University at Indianapolis, June 2017
- Invited participant, “Taking Exception: Queering American Religion” conference, Indiana University Bloomington, March-April 2017
- With Sherine Hafez, Tamara Ho, and Andrea Smith: Center for Ideas and Society grant for developing a UCR research group on queer and transgender studies in religion
- 2016** Keynote address, “Beyond the Culture Wars: LGBTIQ History Now” conference, La Trobe University, Melbourne, Australia, December 2016
- Aasta Hansteen Lecture on Gender and Religion, University of Oslo, Norway, August 2016
- Invited participant, “Being Spiritual but not Religious: Past, Present, Future(s)” conference, Rice University, TX, March 2016
- Invited participant, “Embodied Religion: Social Structures and Religious Experience” conference, Princeton University, March 2016
- 2015** Georgia Harkness lecturer, Center for Lesbian and Gay Studies in Religion and Ministry, Berkeley, CA, October 2015
- 2013** Invited participant, “At the Intersections of Queer Studies in Religion” conference, Barnard College, November 2013
- Louis B. Perry Summer Research Award (for student-faculty teams), Whitman College
- Invited participant, Eighth *Encuentro* of the Hemispheric Institute of Performance and Politics, São Paulo, Brazil. Cancelled attendance due to unexpected illness.
- 2012** Abshire Research Award (for student-faculty teams), Whitman College
- Louis B. Perry Summer Research Award
- 2011** Abshire Research Award, Whitman College
- Louis B. Perry Summer Research Award
- Invited participant, “The Politics of Living Religion/Spirituality and Gender/Sexuality in Everyday Context” conference, London, England.
- 2010** Invited participant, SSRC workshop on “The Politics of Spirituality”
- Keynote address, Uncovering Gender conference, Neuchâtel, Switzerland
- Appointed Paul Garrett Fellow, Whitman College
- American Sociological Association Book Award, Sociology of Religion Section
- Louis B. Perry Summer Research Award

- Earl Lecturer, Pacific School of Religion
- 2008** Arcus Foundation grant for LGBTIQ reception at the American Academy of Religion annual meeting  
Whitman College mini-grant, “Student and Program Assessment in an Interdisciplinary Context”  
Honorable Mention, “20 Powerful Lesbian Academics,” *Curve* 18, Vol. 2 (2008)
- 2007** Louis B. Perry Summer Research Award, Whitman College
- 2006** Adam Dublin Award for multicultural studies (For faculty-student teams), Whitman College
- 2004** Abshire Research Award, Whitman College
- 2001** Faculty Research Grant, UCSB Interdisciplinary Humanities Center (Queer Visions Conference)  
Individual Research Assistance Grant, American Academy of Religion  
Faculty General Research Grant, UCSB Academic Senate  
Faculty Research Grant, UCSB Interdisciplinary Humanities Center (LAWS Project)  
Fichter Research Grant, Association for the Sociology of Religion  
UCSB Residential Education Outstanding Faculty
- 2001** Finalist, Lancaster Dissertation Award 1999-2001
- 2000** Professor Robert S. Michaelsen Award in American Religions
- 1999** Humanities and Social Sciences Research Grant, Graduate Division, UCSB
- 1998** Humanities and Social Sciences Research Grant, Graduate Division, UCSB
- 1996-2000** Regents’ Special Fellowship, University of California Santa Barbara
- 1996-1997** Junior Research Fellow, UCSB Interdisciplinary Humanities Center

## CONFERENCE PAPERS AND LECTURES

- “TBD,” lecture given at the Walter H. Capps Center for the Study of Ethics, Religion, and Public Life, UC Santa Barbara, October 2024.
- “The Binary Ripple Effect: Deconstructing the Boundaries between Religion and Sex,” keynote address, conference on “Religion beyond Binary,” Frankfurt, Germany, July 2024.
- “Stumbling Toward Ecstasy: Queer and (Trans)feminist Methods in the Study of Religion,” annual Gender Lecture at the Centre for Gender Studies and Feminist Futures/annual Research Lecture, Interdisciplinary Centre for the Study of Religions, Phillips University, Marburg, Germany, June 2024.
- “Dodging the Sisters: Or, what winds people up about queer nuns, anyway?” Distinguished lecture, Program for the Study of Religion, University of California, San Diego, February 2024.
- “Dodging the Sisters: Why Queer Nuns Go Viral.” Opening lecture in Parody, Politics, and Religion lecture series, John C. Danforth Center on Religion and Politics, Washington University in St. Louis, January 2024.
- “Ecstatic Method: Notes Toward the Sexy Study of Religion,” keynote address, Autumn School, The Anthropology of Gender, Sexuality, and Religion, Friedrich Alexander Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg, September 2023.
- “Truth, Power, and Priests in Dungeons: Queering the Study of Religion.” Queer Studies in Religion Program Unit, American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, Denver, CO, November 2022.

- “Notes on Friendship, Authority, and Power.” Gender and Postsecularity: Tensions and Transformations in Knowledge Production and Popular Culture. University of Vienna (online), November 2021.
- “Dis(ass)embling Religion: How Queer and Trans Studies Can Change the Field.” Gender- and Queer Studies as Epistemological Challenge to the Study of Religion lecture series, University of Hamburg/University of Heidelberg (online), November 2021.
- “(The) Discipline and the Confessional: Power and Protest in the Practices of Religion and Scholarship.” Keynote address, “Lived Religion: Power, Protest, Practice” conference, University of Oslo (online), November 2021.
- “Queer and Trans Studies in Religion: An Introduction.” Women Scholars Network Webinar, International Association for the History of Religions, October 2021. Recording available online: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w5FnzUXbzNE&t=752s>.
- “Clearing Pathways: A Workshop on Creating Space for the Work You Want to Do.” Keynote workshop, Engender Conference, Heidelberg, Germany, August 2021 (delivered online).
- “Daddies, Fathers, Sisters, Folk: Meditations on Religion and Kinship in Queer Spaces.” Keynote Address, Transgressive Religion Network meeting, Paris, June 2021 (delivered online).
- “On Holy (Cruising) Ground, in Sacred (Sub) Space: Beyond the Homonormative and Cisnormative Study of Religion.” Castañeda Lecture, Chicago Theological Seminary, May 2020 (rescheduled to 2021 and moved online due to COVID-19).
- “Fuzzy Boundaries: Mapping the Dimensions of Unpaid Academic Labor.” Panel on “Unpaid Labor in the Academy,” Academic Labor and Contingent Faculty Committee, American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, November 2020.
- “From Pandemic to Pandemic: Against Healing, Toward an Ethos of Attending.” “Against Healing” panel, Women and Religion Unit, American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, November 2020.
- “Queerness and Gender Fluidity in the 21st Century – A Bay Area Exploration.” Panelist, American Sociological Association, San Francisco, Calif., August 2020 (cancelled due to COVID-19).
- “Beyond ‘Add Queers and Stir’: Queer Nuns, Leather Spirituality, and the End of the (Academic) World as We Know It.” Presented at the Philosophy and Religious Studies Colloquium, California State University Bakersfield, December 2019.
- “On Being Taken Seriously.” Presented in the Wildcard Session, “Irony, Play, and the (Serious[?]) Study of Religion,” American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, November 2019.
- “Religion and Sex on the Free Market: Respectability, Capital, and Conviction.” Presented in “Authors Meet Each Other: Religion and Sexuality in the Social Field,” Anthropology of Religion Unit and Religion and the Social Sciences Unit, American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, San Diego, Calif., November 2019.
- “Queer Transformations: Religion, Sex, and Power/Play.” Presented at the Dance Studies Department Colloquium, UC Riverside, October 2019.
- “Theory in the Interstices: Queering and Transing Religious Studies, Religioning Trans and Queer Studies.” Temenos Lecture, Finnish Society for the Study of Religion/keynote speaker, “Queer Shepherds – Pervot Paimenet – Queera Herdar” Conference (Joint meeting of the XII Seminar & International Autumn School of the Society of Queer Studies in Finland, the Finnish Society of the Study of Religion, and the International Association for Religion and Gender), September 2019.
- “Religious Disruptions/Disrupting Religions: Play in Leather Spirituality and the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence.” Plenary roundtable, HEMI Encuentro 2019: The World Inside Out:

- Humor, Noise, and Performance.” Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, Mexico City, Mexico, June 2019.
- “Holy Communion Condoms! The Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence as a Case for Religion in Queer Studies.” Invited talk, Religion Department, Wesleyan University, May 2019
- “Joy is What’s Left in the Crucible’: Forty Years of Activist Lessons from the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence.” Invited talk, Religion and Sexuality speakers’ series, Fordham University, April 2019.
- “Ecstasies: Or, the Limitations of Vanilla Spirituality Studies.” Presented at the “Social Dimensions of Spirituality” conference, Indiana University-Purdue University at Indianapolis, April 2019.
- “Sacrilige and Secularity: Queer Provocations in the Study of Religion.” Invited talk, Women, Gender and Sexuality reading group, Religions and Cultures Department, Concordia University, March 2019.
- “That’s Not Religion! Queering the Boundaries between the Religious, the Spiritual, and the Secular.” Presented in the “Locating the Spiritual but not Religious” session, American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA, November 2018.
- “Hierophanies of Resistance: A Meditation on Sovereignty and Strangeness in Three Movements.” Keynote address, “Sovereignty and Strangeness” conference, Northwestern University, October 2018.
- “*Queer Nuns*: Serious Parody as Performative Activism.” Invited book talk, Center for Ideas and Society, UC Riverside, May 2018.
- “*Queer Nuns*.” Invited book talk, American Religions Group, Columbia University, May 2018.
- “Serious Parody, Past and Present: An Introduction to the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence.” Keynote address, (Re)Sister Week, Purdue University, April 2018.
- “Ethnographic Orthodoxies: Queer Feminist Research Ethics in a Neoliberal Age.” Invited talk, Intersectional Centre for Inclusion and Social Justice (INCISE), Canterbury Christ Church University, March 2018.
- “The Nuns Are Coming!: The Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence and Queer Activism in Australia and England, 1981-1995.” Presented at OUTing the Past 2018, Liverpool John Moores University, March 2018.
- “Sinning Some More: What Counts as Religion, Who Gets to Say, and Why?” Presented at Pomona College, March 2018.
- “Queer Nuns: Serious Parody and the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence.” Rufus Monroe and Sofie Hoegaard Paine Lecture, Department of Religious Studies, University of Missouri, November 2017.
- “To Russia with Love: Religion, Global Capitalism, and Gay Solidarity.” Presented at “Thank G@d We’re Not Like Them! Global Dimensions of Religious Othering,” an Orfalea Center Global Religion Hub Workshop, University of California Santa Barbara, October 2017.
- “Erotic Solidarity: Queer Religious and Political Commentary in the 2016 Orthodox Calendar.” Presented at Queering Paradigms VIII: Fucking Solidarity, Vienna, Austria, September 2017.
- “Biopolitics, Necropolitics, and Disavowed State Religion.” Presented at the Biennial Conference on Religion and American Culture, Center for the Study of Religion and American Culture, Indiana University-Purdue University at Indianapolis, June 2017.
- “Serious Parody: Queer Activism and Religion.” Guest lecture, University of San Francisco, February 2017.

- “Apocrypha and Sacred Stories: Queer Worldmaking, Historical ‘Truth,’ and the Ethics of Research in Living Communities.” Keynote address, “Beyond the Culture Wars: LGBTIQ History Now” conference, La Trobe University, Melbourne, Australia, December 2016.
- “Surviving the Trumpocalypse: Notes on Home, Coalition, Choruses, and Justice(s).” Presented at the annual meeting of the American Academy of Religion, San Antonio, TX, November 2016.
- “Sacred Clowns and Settler Colonials: Colonial Discourse and Queer Resistance in the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence.” Presented at the annual meeting of the National Women’s Studies Association, Montreal, QC, November 2016.
- “Em-bodying Nuns: Queer Embodiment and the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence.” Aasta Hansteen Lecture on Gender and Religion, University of Oslo, August 2016.
- “Consuming Spirituality: SBNR and Neoliberal Logic.” Presented at the “Being Spiritual but not Religious: Past, Present, Future(s)” conference, Rice University, TX, March 2016.
- “We ARE Nuns, Silly!’: Queer Nuns’ Claims to Authenticity.” Presented at the “Embodied Religion: Social Structures and Religious Experience” Workshop, Princeton University, NJ, March 2016.
- “‘A Sacred, Powerful Woman Housed in a Man’s Body’: Complexities of Gender and Religion in the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence.” Georgia Harkness lecture, Center for Lesbian and Gay Studies in Religion and Ministry, Berkeley, CA, October 2015.
- “Sincerest Form of Flattery? Serious Parody and Twenty-First Century Queer Nuns.” Presented at the conference “Queering Paradigms 6,” Canterbury, England, July 2015.
- “Beneath the Whiteface: Postcolonial and Critical Race Perspectives on the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence.” Presented at the annual meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Baltimore, MD, November 2013.
- “Methodological Promiscuity and Undisciplined Intellectual Orgies.” Presented at the conference “At the Intersections of Queer Studies and Religion,” Barnard Center for Research on Women, November 20-21, 2013.
- “Outside and Inside the Mainstream: Race and the Politics of Inclusion in the SPI,” co-authored with Luís Alba-Sánchez (Whitman ’14). Presented at the annual meeting of the Association for the Sociology of Religion, New York, NY, August 2013.
- “Opiate or Elixir? Religion in Queer Communities.” Presented at the annual meeting of the American Sociological Association, New York, NY, August 2013.
- “Serious Parody: Genderfuck, ‘Religionfuck,’ and the Politics of Spirituality in the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence.” Presented at “Radically Gay: The Life and Visionary Legacy of Harry Hay,” Center for Lesbian and Gay Studies, City University of New York, September 27-29, 2012.
- “Religious Parody and Social Change: The Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence,” co-authored with Caroline Carr (Whitman ’13). Presented at the annual meeting, Association for the Sociology of Religion, Denver, Co., August 2012.
- “Activism and the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence: Performance, Parody, Religion, and Resistance.” Presented at the “Queer Places, Practices, and Lives” conference, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH, May 18-19, 2012.
- “None Nuns: Spirituality and Politics in the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence.” Presented at the Social Science Research Council workshop, “Spirituality and Politics,” New York, NY, October 2010.
- “Uncovering Gender and Sexuality in Postmodern Religion.” Keynote address, “Religious Pluralism: Uncovering Gender” conference. University of Neuchâtel, Switzerland, September 2010.

- “Serious Parody: The Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence as Postmodern Religion,” co-authored with Liam Mina (Whitman ’11). Presented at the annual meeting, Association for the Sociology of Religion, Atlanta, Ga., August 2010.
- “‘A Spiritual Being Having a Human Experience’: Gender, Sexuality, and Religious Individualism.” Earl Lecture, January 2010, Pacific School of Religion
- “Freaks and Queers in the Study of Religion.” Presented at the annual meeting, American Academy of Religion, Teaching Religion Section and Queer Theory and LGBT Studies in Religion Consultation, Montréal, QC, 2009.
- “Bodily Transgressions: Reading Self-Injury through Ritual and Feminist Theory.” Presented at the annual meeting, American Academy of Religion, Feminist Theory and Religious Reflection Group, Chicago, Ill, 2008.
- “Generations.” Panel presentation, Lesbian-Feminist Issues in Religion Group, American Academy of Religion, San Diego, Calif., 2007.
- “Religion and Same-Sex Marriage in Canada and the U.S.,” co-authored with Erin Flaucher (Whitman ’07). Presented at the annual meeting, Association for the Sociology of Religion, New York, N.Y., August 2007.
- “Religion: Opiate of the Queers?” Panel presentation, annual meeting, Pacific Sociological Association, Oakland, Calif., 2007.
- “‘A Spiritual Being Having a Human Experience’: Spirituality, Identity, and Practice among Queer Women.” Presented at the annual meeting, Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, Portland, Ore., October 2006.
- “Identity Factors in Contemporary Religious Patterns: A Theoretical Consideration.” Presented at the annual meeting, Association for the Sociology of Religion, Philadelphia, Penn., August 2005.
- “Queer Diversities: Implications for Activists, Religious Organizations, and Public Policy.” Presented at the annual meeting, Eastern Sociological Society, Washington, D.C., March 2005.
- “Assessing and Developing LGBT Studies and Queer Theory in Religion.” Presented at the annual meeting, WECSOR/AAR-Western Region, Tempe, Ariz., March 2005.
- “Subject, Object, Sacred, Profane: Kristeva and Otto as Tools for Theorizing Religion and Social Power.” Presented at the American Academy of Religion, Feminist Theory and Religious Reflection group, San Antonio, Tex., November 2004.
- “Gender and the Religion Gap: Queering the Patterns of Religious Affiliation.” Presented at the CLGS Lecture Series, Center for Lesbian and Gay Studies in Religion and Ministry, Graduate Theological Union, Berkeley, Cal., October 2004.
- “Queer Seekers: Religion and Identity Negotiation in Los Angeles.” Presented at the Association for the Sociology of Religion, San Francisco, Cal., August 2004.
- “Teaching Toward Justice: Dilemmas of Pedagogical Activism.” Presented at the American Academy of Religion, Academic Teaching and the Study of Religion section, Toronto, Ont., November 2002.
- “Core Issues in the Ethnography of Religion.” Panel presentation, annual meeting, Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, Salt Lake City, Utah, October 2002.
- “Discourse Bless America: Rebuilding the National Mythos after September 11.” Presented at the annual meeting, Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, Salt Lake City, Utah, October 2002.
- “Where Have All the Women Gone? Gender and Lived Religion in Queer L.A.” Presented at the annual meeting, Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, Salt Lake City, Utah, October 2002.

- “From Social Margin to Center Stage: Individualism, Queer Congregations, and the ‘Homosexuality’ Debates.” Presented at the annual meeting, Association for the Sociology of Religion, Anaheim, Calif., August 2001.
- “Rights of Passage: Celebrating Queer Women’s Lives.” Keynote talk, tenth anniversary celebration of the Women’s Studies in Religion program, Claremont Graduate University, April 2001.
- “When Sheila’s a Lesbian: Religious Individualism among Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Christians.” Presented at the annual meeting, Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, Houston, Tex., October 2000.
- “Voicing the Silence: The AIDS Quilt, the Shower of Stoles, and Freedom of Symbolic Speech.” Presented at the annual meeting, American Academy of Religion, Nashville, Tenn., November 2000.
- “Saint Matthew: Remaking the World after the Death of a Gay Man.” Presented at the annual meeting, Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, Boston, Mass., Nov. 1999.
- “The Making of a Martyr: Religious Responses to the Death of Matthew Shepard.” Presented at the Western Regional meeting of the American Academy of Religion, San Francisco, Calif., March 1999.
- “‘Come to the Water’: Christianity and Sexual Identity in the Metropolitan Community Church.” Presented at the annual meeting, Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, Montreal, Quebec, November 1998.
- “Uppity Religion: Z. Budapest and Dianic Witchcraft.” Presented at the Western Regional meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Berkeley, Calif., March 1997.

## **PROFESSIONAL AND SERVICE ACTIVITIES**

### ***Administration, Committees, Consultations, and Juries***

- Chair, Status of LGBTIQ Persons in the Profession Committee, American Academy of Religion, January 2024-December 2025
- Financial and Administrative Officer (FAO) search committee, UC Riverside, 2024
- Secretary, Queer Trans Religion (Nonprofit incorporated in 2023)
- UC Humanities Research Institute Faculty Advisory Committee, 2023-2026
- Financial and Administrative Officer (FAO) search committee, UC Riverside, 2023
- Editorial board member, Gender and Religion book series, Brill Academic Publishers, 2022-present
- Black Religions in the US Search Committee, Department of Religious Studies, UC Riverside, 2022
- CHASS Dean Search Committee, UC Riverside, 2021
- Chancellor’s Advisory Committee, LGBT Resource Center, UC Riverside, 2020-present
- Advisory board member, *Religious Studies Review*, 2019-present
- Editorial board member, *American Religion*, 2019-present
- Editorial board member, Bloomsbury Series in Religion, Gender, and Sexuality, 2019-present
- Chair, Department of Religious Studies, University of California, Riverside, 2019-2027
- Chair, Committee on the Status of Women in the Profession, American Academy of Religion, 2019-2021
- Associate Editor, *Journal of the American Academy of Religion*, 2018-present
- Editorial board member, Religion and the Social Order book series, Brill Academic Publishers, 2017-present
- Director of Graduate Studies, Department of Religious Studies, UCR, 2017-2019
- Member, Committee on the Status of Women in the Profession, American Academy of Religion, 2017-2018

Member, Professional Conduct Task Force, American Academy of Religion, 2017-2018  
UCPath Faculty Liaison, University of California, Riverside, 2017-2018  
Chair, Gender and Sexuality Studies Breadth Requirement Ad Hoc Committee, University of California, Riverside, 2017  
External advisory board member, INCISE (Intersectional Centre for Inclusion and Social Justice), Canterbury Christ Church University, 2016-2019  
Editorial board member, *Religion and Gender*, 2016-2018  
Member, Committee on Planning and Budget, University of California, Riverside, 2016-2017  
Nominations committee member, Sociology of Religion Section, American Sociological Association, 2016  
Steering committee member, Stanford Pride Oral History Project, 2015  
Editorial board member, *Contexts*, 2014-2017  
Editorial board member, *Nova Religio*, 2014-2017  
Editorial board member, *Qualitative Sociology*, 2014-2017  
Professional mentor, AAR mentoring program for under-represented scholars, 2013-present  
Co-chair, AAR Sociology of Religion Group, 2013  
Working Group on Retaining Faculty at Whitman, Whitman College, 2012-2013  
Councilmember, ASA Sociology of Religion Section, 2011-2014  
Jury member, ASA Sociology of Religion Section book award, 2011-2012  
Steering Committee member, AAR Sociology of Religion Consultation, 2011-2012  
Chair, Religion Department, Whitman College, 2010-2013  
Whitman Center for Teaching and Learning Committee, 2008-2011  
Executive Council member, Association for the Sociology of Religion, 2008-2010  
Planning committee, "LGBT Religious Scholarship and Social Change: Mapping the Landscape and Setting the Agenda," Center for Lesbian and Gay Studies in Religion and Ministry, 2008-2009  
Founding Chair, AAR Committee on the Status of LGBTIQ Persons in the Profession, 2007-2013  
Whitman College Council on Student Affairs, 2007-2010  
Organizer, Whitman College writing network program, 2007-2010  
SSSR Student Travel Grant Committee, 2007-2009  
Whitman College President's Advisory Council on Diversity, 2007-2008  
Director of Gender Studies, Whitman College, 2006-2013  
Organizer, Whitman College Feminist Teaching Network, 2006-2010  
Editorial board member, *Sociology of Religion*, 2006-2008  
Member, Whitman College Action against Hate Committee, 2006-2007  
Jury member, LGBT Religious History paper award, 2005-2013  
Founding Chair, AAR Consultation on Queer Theory and LGBT Studies in Religion, 2005-2010  
Invited participant, Consultation on Religion and Sexuality, Center for the Study of Religion, Princeton University, 2005  
Founding Chair, Whitman College Action against Hate Committee, 2004-2006  
Nord Award committee (for student work in LGBT studies), Whitman College: 2004-2005  
Committee member, Student Initiated Outreach Program, U.C. Santa Barbara, 2002-2003  
Participant, Graduate Advisors' Consultation, Wabash Center, 2002  
Invited participant, Lived Religion workshop, Boisi Center, Boston College, 2002  
Organizer and grant writer, "Queer Visions in the Americas: A Conference on LGBT/Q Studies in Religion." U.C. Santa Barbara, 2002  
Advisory Committee member, LGBT Religious Archives Network (LGBT-RAN), 2001-2012

Founder and faculty organizer, Women, Gender, and Religion focus group, U.C. Santa Barbara, 2001

Search Committee member for director of Resource Center for Sexual and Gender Diversity, U.C. Santa Barbara, 2001

***Peer Reviewer/Referee***

*American Journal of Sociology*

*American Sociological Review*

*Australian Feminist Studies*

*British Art Studies*

*Contexts* (Former editorial board member)

*Current Sociology*

*differences*

*Feminist Formations*

*Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*

*Journal of Adolescent Research*

*Journal of Autoethnography*

*Journal of Contemporary Religion*

*Journal of Homosexuality*

*Journal of Lesbian Studies*

*Journal of the American Academy of Religion* (Associate Editor starting in 2018)

*Journal of the History of Sexuality*

*National Science Foundation*

*Nova Religio* (Former editorial board member)

*NWSA Journal*

*Qualitative Sociology* (Former editorial board member)

*Religion*

*Religion and Gender* (Former editorial board member)

*Review of Religious Research*

*Riksbankens Jubileumsfond* (Sweden) – 1 review in 2023

*Sexualities*

*Sexuality Research and Social Policy*

*Signs*

*Social Compass*

*Social Problems*

*Sociology of Religion* (Former editorial board member)

*Sociological Spectrum*

*Swiss National Science Foundation* (2019, re-reviewed in 2020; 2023)

*Symbolic Interaction*

*The Sociological Quarterly*

*Transgender Studies Quarterly*

Ashgate

Bloomsbury

Fordham University Press

New York University Press

Oxford University Press

Penn State University Press

Prentice Hall  
Routledge  
Rutgers University Press (1 book in 2018, re-reviewed in 2019)  
University of North Carolina Press (proposal in 2021, manuscript in 2022, revisions in 2023)  
Wadsworth

External reviewer: Tenure and promotion cases

2023: 1 case

2022: 1 case

2021: 6 cases (1 international)

2020: 2 cases (1 international)

2018: 2 cases

2017: 2 cases

2015: 1 case

External reviewer: Departments and accreditation

Department of Religious Studies and Classics, University of Arizona (Chair of review committee),  
December 2023

Gender Studies Department, Willamette University, 2014

Evaluator, Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities

### ***Community Lectures, Interviews, and Campus Events***

Interview with Kayleigh Padar, *Chicago Reader*, 25 June 2024.

Interview with Zeff Llamas, Rainbow Pride Youth Alliance, 12 December 2023.

Interview with Bradley Onishi, *Straight White American Jesus* podcast, aired 29 May 2023. *Podcast available here:*

[https://open.spotify.com/episode/11VMK7fGf7YaVJjPRTAHZd?si=x7giJu4WQ9WIkYEW6AU\\_rQ&nd=1](https://open.spotify.com/episode/11VMK7fGf7YaVJjPRTAHZd?si=x7giJu4WQ9WIkYEW6AU_rQ&nd=1)

Interview with Sonja Sharp, Los Angeles Times, 18 May 2023. *Story available at:*

<https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2023-05-19/sisters-of-perpetual-indulgence-dodgers-pride-night>

Featured in UTK Religion podcast, 1 November 2022. *Podcast available at*

<https://soundcloud.com/user-856842937/melissa-wilcox>

Interview with Lennon Sherburne, Simmons College, 11 March 2022

Interview with Zeff Llamas, Rainbow Pride Youth Alliance, 3 March 2022

Interview with Jera Brown for Left-Handed Journeys podcast, 11 February 2022

Interview for En-Gender podcast, 24 January 2022

Panelist, “New Books in Queer and Trans Religion: Publishing During the COVID-19 Pandemic,” webinar sponsored by the AAR LGBTIQ Status Committee, 25 May 2021

Panelist, “Demystifying the Journal Publishing Process,” webinar sponsored by the UC Davis Humanities Institute, the UC Irvine Humanities Center, and the UC San Diego Institute of Arts and Humanities, 7 May 2021. *Video available at*

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=\\_HOdIU6I80](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_HOdIU6I80)

Online class visit, Religious Studies/Women’s Studies 265: Queering Religion, Agnes Scott College, 5 April 2021

Online guest speaker, Sociology of Religion PhD Reading Circle, University of Helsinki, 25 March 2021

Online class visit, Queer Religiosities, Truman State University, 17 March 2021

Interview with Rachael Borthwick for podcast, *Out of the Closet and Into the Pews*, 2 February 2021

Panelist, “Seconds, Please! A Roundtable on Publishing Your Second Book,” Center for Ideas and Society/Performing Difference Working Group Webinar, 22 April 2020. *Video available at* <https://vimeo.com/413181448>

Interview with Angelica Cabral for podcast, 9 April 2020 (available here: <https://soundcloud.com/angelicacabral/queering-religion-episode-1>)

Interview with Paul Sturtevant, *The Public Medievalist*, 17 July 2019 (podcast forthcoming)

Interview with Justin Bengry, *Notches*, 4 April 2019 (available here: <http://notchesblog.com/2019/04/04/queer-nuns/>)

Interview with Hillary Kaell, *AnthroCyBib* (University of Edinburgh), 6 September 2018 (available here: <https://www.blogs.hss.ed.ac.uk/anthrocybib/2018/09/06/interview-with-melissa-m-wilcox/>)

Interview with *Religion Dispatches*, 3 May 2018 (available here: <http://religiondispatches.org/queer-nuns-sisters-of-perpetual-indulgence-are-serious-parody-forcing-us-to-redefine-nuns/>)

Interview with Matt McDonel, JOY Radio (Australia), May 2018

Interview with Brian Bromberger, *Bay Area Reporter*, May 2018 (story available here: [http://www.ebar.com/news/news//261547/book\\_on\\_sisters\\_looks\\_at\\_intersection\\_of\\_camp,\\_drag](http://www.ebar.com/news/news//261547/book_on_sisters_looks_at_intersection_of_camp,_drag))

Interview with Robert Hopwood, *The Desert Sun*, March 2018

Interview with Greg Soden, *Classical Ideas Podcast*, 23 January 2018. Available online: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=\\_n1X4W2oV\\_g](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_n1X4W2oV_g).

Guest lecturer and roundtable participant on the intersections of sexuality, gender, and religion, Saint Mary’s College of California, March 2016

Moderator, “Difficult Dialogues: Masculinities at Whitman,” Whitman College, December 2014

Interview on religion in LGBTQ communities with Bailey Bryant, University of Illinois, October 2014

Playwright and panelist, “Anonymous/Invisible,” Whitman College, October 2014

Interview on LGBTQ religious history with Jaweed Kaleem, Senior religion reporter, *The Huffington Post*, 26 June 2014

“Advocating for LGBTQ Survivors of Domestic Violence.” Co-presented with Nicole Pitsavas, Psy.D. to Domestic Violence Services of Benton and Franklin Counties, Kennewick, Wash., February 2014

Panelist, “Feminism and Race,” Whitman College, 2013

Panelist, “Religion and Sexuality,” Whitman College, 2013

Moderator, “FeMENism: Men in feminism,” Whitman College, 2011, 2012

Interview with Iris Deroeux, freelance writer for French publications, 8 Feb. 2011

Interview on the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence, *@Issue*, iChannel, Toronto, Canada, 2011

Consultant for panel on gender experiences, hosted by Feminists Advocating Change and Education and Men at Whitman, 2010

“The Sacred (and the) Self: Queer Women and Identity Negotiation.” Guest lecture, Central Washington University, May 1, 2008

Interview on LGBT Christians with Jeff Brumley, *Florida Times-Union*, 2008

Interview on transsexuality and evangelical Christianity with Kelli Kennedy, Associated Press, 2007

Interview on transgender issues in Christianity with Daniel Burke, Religion News Service, 2007

Interview on MCC church defections, with Jim Haug, *Daytona Beach News-Journal*, 2007  
 Interview on evangelicals and homosexuality with Eric Gorski, *Denver Post*, 2006  
 Invited speaker, Academic Recognition Banquet, Whitman College, 2005  
 Visiting educator, Pacific Lutheran University, 2005  
 “Connecting Whitman” public forum: “Religion in the November Elections,” 2004  
 Public forum (sponsored by Feminists Advocating Change and Empowerment): “The Brandon Teena Story,” 2004  
 Public lecture: “Sexual Orientation, Christianity, and Identity Negotiation.” Presented at Shalom United Church of Christ, Richland, Wa., 2004  
 Guest lecture: “Religion and the Sociology of Gender,” Walla Walla College, 2004  
 Interview with Peter Monaghan for the *Chronicle of Higher Education*’s “Verbatim” column (published 5/21/04)  
 Public lecture: “Drag Nuns, Gender-Crossing Gods: Gender Diversity in Religious Studies.” Presented through Lyman Hall lecture series, Whitman College, 2004  
 Public lecture: “LGBT Issues in Christianity.” Presented at First Congregational Church, Walla Walla, Wa., 2004  
 Interview on religion and same-sex marriage, KEPR (Tri-Cities, Wa.; aired 3/15/04)  
 Interview on gay and lesbian ordination, *Chicago Sun-Times*, 2003  
 Public lecture: “Queer Religiosities.” Presented through the Resource Center for Sexual and Gender Diversity, U.C. Santa Barbara, 2003  
 Workshop leader: “Power and Privilege in the Classroom.” Presented as part of the Feminist Pedagogy Series, Women’s Studies Program, U.C. Santa Barbara, 2003  
 Panel participant: “Reconciling Religion and Sexual Orientation.” Presented through the Resource Center for Sexual and Gender Diversity, U.C. Santa Barbara, 2002  
 Public workshop: “Queering the Bible.” Presented through the Resource Center for Sexual and Gender Diversity, U.C. Santa Barbara, 2001  
 Public lecture: “Sociological Perspectives on Sexual Orientation and Religion.” Presented through the Queer Resource Center, U.C. Santa Barbara, 2000  
 Public lecture with Nancy Ramsey Tosh: “Mothers and Goddesses: Women in Search of the Feminine Divine.” Presented through the UCSB Affiliates, 2000

### ***Continuing Education and Skill Development***

Participant, Global Studies Seminar, Whitman College, September-December 2014  
 Participant, Evaluator Workshop, Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities, 2012  
 Participant, Cross-Disciplinary Learning and Teaching Initiative workshop on masculinity studies, Whitman College, January-May 2011  
 Participant, two workshops on faculty mentoring, Whitman College, 2009  
 Participant, workshop on advising the senior thesis, Whitman College, 2009  
 Certified Sexual Misconduct First Responder, Whitman College, 2008  
 Participant, Evaluator Workshop, Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities, 2008  
 Participant, “Gender, Sexuality, and the Return of Religion” conference, Syracuse University, 2007  
 Participant, Conference on Innovations in the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning at the Liberal Arts Colleges, St. Olaf and Carleton Colleges, 2007  
 Certified “Train the Trainer” (Hate crime/hate incident prevention and education), Stop the Hate, 2004  
 Distance education: Taught a videoconferencing section of “Religion, Oppression, and Resistance” through U.C. Santa Barbara’s Ventura Center, 2003

### ***Service at Conferences***

- Respondent, "Skin in the Game: Ethnographies of Religious Embodiment," Anthropology of Religion Unit, American Academy of Religion, Denver, CO, 2018
- External reviewer, Gay Men and Religion Group, American Academy of Religion, Atlanta, GA, November 2015
- Paper session co-chair, "Sexualities and Religion," Religion Section, American Sociological Association, Chicago, IL, August 2015 (wrote the call for papers, reviewed proposals, and designed the paper session)
- External reviewer, Lesbian-Feminist Issues in Religion Group, American Academy of Religion, San Diego, CA, November 2014
- Paper session convener, Religion Section, American Sociological Association, San Francisco, CA, August 2014
- Roundtable session convener, American Sociological Association Sexualities Section, San Francisco, CA, August 2014
- Author Meets Critics panelist for Bender, Cadge, Levitt, and Smilde, *Religion on the Edge: De-Centering and Re-Centering the Sociology of Religion*, at the annual meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Baltimore, MD, November 2013
- Author Meets Critics panelist for Bernadette Barton's *Pray Away the Gay: The Extraordinary Lives of Bible Belt Gays*, at the annual meeting of the Association for the Sociology of Religion, New York, NY, August 2013
- Roundtable session designer and convener, American Sociological Association Religion Section, New York, NY, August 2013
- Respondent for session on "Queering Women's Religious History: Desire, Identity, and Religious Practice." American Academy of Religion annual meeting, Chicago, IL, 2012
- Panelist, Sex, Gender, Sexuality, and Religion cluster. Theme: "Naming Our History, Rebuilding Our Alliances, Mapping Our Future." American Academy of Religion annual meeting, Chicago, IL, 2012
- Panelist, Special Topics Forum, "Beyond Identity Politics." American Academy of Religion annual meeting, Chicago, IL, 2012
- Session convener, Insurgent Scholarship workshop and "Author Meets Critics: Jasbir Puar's Terrorist Assemblages," American Academy of Religion annual meeting, San Francisco, CA, 2011
- Session convener, "Queer Careers," American Academy of Religion annual meeting, Montréal, QC, 2009
- Session convener, "Gender Politics," Association for the Sociology of Religion annual meeting, Philadelphia, Penn., 2005
- Roundtable session convener, "Interactions of Religion and Sexuality: Theories and Methods," American Sociological Association annual meeting, Philadelphia, Penn., 2005
- Session convener, Cultural Turn-III Conference, U.C. Santa Barbara, 2001

### ***Campus Service (Non-committee)***

- "Dreaming Retention" panel, Center for Ideas and Society, UCR, February 2023
- Pre-major advising, 2005-2016
- Major advising: Gender Studies and Religious Studies, 2004-2016
- Thesis advising: Gender Studies, Religious Studies, and Race and Ethnic Studies, 2004-2016
- "Masculinities at Whitman," discussion facilitated as part of the Residence Life "Cookies and Controversy" series, November 2014

Faculty advisor, Active Minds student club, 2013  
Faculty Marshal, 2009-2013  
“Simone de Beauvoir,” presentation to Whitman Encounters faculty, 2012  
“Voices of Whitman” peer discussion leader training, 2009-2012  
Faculty mentor, Whitman College, 2009-2012  
“Reading Luke and Romans as Complicit Texts,” presentation to Whitman Core faculty, 2007  
Organized Labor Day teach-in at Whitman College, 2005  
Faculty advisor, Whitman College Coalition Against Homophobia, 2004-2006  
Mentor, Whitman College Intercultural Center, 2003-2005  
Mentor, U.C. Santa Barbara LGBT mentoring program, 2002-2003  
Informal advising and mentoring, undergraduate and graduate, 2000-present  
Panel participant on name change for U.C. Santa Barbara’s Queer Resource Center, 2000

***Postdoctoral Scholars Advised***

Sahin Acikgoz, Chancellor’s Postdoctoral Fellow, UC Riverside

***Graduate Students Advised – Dissertation Committee Chair***

J Selke, C.Phil. 2022, Department of Religious Studies, U.C. Riverside  
(Co-chair) Kimberly Diaz, C.Phil. 2022, Department of Religious Studies, U.C. Riverside  
Kori Pacyniak, C.Phil. 2021, Department of Religious Studies, U.C. Riverside  
(Co-chair) Tessa Harmon, C.Phil. 2021, Department of Religious Studies, U.C. Riverside  
Jessica Rehman, Ph.D. 2022, Department of Religious Studies, U.C. Riverside  
“Muslim Yeshiva or Hebrew Madrasa? The Muslim Leadership Initiative”  
Danielle Dempsey, Ph.D. 2020, Department of Religious Studies, U.C. Riverside  
“Interrogating Pope Francis: On Gender Theory and Ideological Colonization”  
Kathryn Phillips, Ph.D. 2020, Department of Religious Studies, U.C. Riverside  
“You Are Correctly Called a Man, Because You Act Manfully”: A Transgender Studies  
Approach to Gender-Crossing Saints in Late Antiquity  
Corinne Knight, Ph.D. 2017, Department of Religious Studies, U.C. Riverside  
Dissertation on the webcomic *Girl Genius* and the “American Monomyth”

***Graduate Students Advised – Dissertation Committee Member***

Erika Sadler, Ph.D. expected 2024, Faculty of Theology and Religious Studies, Université de  
Sherbrooke, Québec, Canada  
Ashley King, Ph.D. 2021, Department of Religious Studies, Northwestern University  
Tejpaul Baniwal, C.Phil 2020, Department of Religious Studies, U.C. Riverside  
Aaron Brown, C.Phil 2020, Department of English, U.C. Riverside  
Joshua Earls, C.Phil. 2018, Department of Religious Studies, U.C. Riverside  
Hassanah El-Yacoubi, C.Phil. 2018, Department of Religious Studies, U.C. Riverside  
SJ Crasnow, Ph.D. 2017, Department of Religious Studies, U.C. Riverside  
“From the Gay Synagogue to the Queer Shtetl: Normativity, Innovation, and Utopian Imagining  
in the Lived Religion of Queer and Transgender Jews”  
Géraldine Morel, Ph.D. 2012, Institut d’Ethnologie, Université de Neuchâtel  
“Être Abakuá à la Havane: Pouvoir en Jeu, Enjeux de Pouvoir et Mise en Scène de Soi”

***Graduate Students Advised – Qualifying Exam Committee Chair***

Kimberly Diaz, C.Phil 2022, Department of Religious Studies, U.C. Riverside (co-chair)

Ph.D. qualifying exam committee chair and gender & race in US religions (minor field) exam  
J Selke, C.Phil 2022, Department of Religious Studies, U.C. Riverside

Ph.D. qualifying exam committee chair and theory and methods exam  
Tessa Harmon, C.Phil 2021, Department of Religious Studies, U.C. Riverside

Ph.D. qualifying exam committee chair and US Religions exam  
Kori Pacyniak, C.Phil. 2021, Department of Religious Studies, U.C. Riverside

Ph.D. qualifying exam committee chair and theory and methods exam  
Danielle Dempsey, C.Phil. 2017, Department of Religious Studies, U.C. Riverside

Ph.D. qualifying exam committee chair and theory and methods exam

### ***Graduate Students Advised – Qualifying Exam Committee Member***

Gurbeer Singh, C.Phil. 2022, Department of Religious Studies, U.C. Riverside

Alexandr Zamusinski, C.Phil. 2022, Department of Religious Studies, U.C. Riverside

Elizabeth Miller, C.Phil. 2020, Department of Religious Studies, U.C. Riverside

Theory and methods exam

Tejpaul Baniwal, C.Phil. 2020, Department of Religious Studies, U.C. Riverside – Minor field  
exam in American Religions

Joshua Earls, C.Phil. 2018, Department of Religious Studies, U.C. Riverside – Reader

Hassanah El-Yacoubi, C.Phil. 2018, Department of Religious Studies, U.C. Riverside – Minor field  
exam in American Religions

Kathryn Phillips, C.Phil. 2018, Department of Religious Studies, U.C. Riverside – Reader

### ***Undergraduate Honors Students Advised***

Lucas López, Class of '21

August Schlott, Class of '21

Perla Flores, Class of '20

Lacy Guzman, Class of '20 (did not complete honors)

## **COURSES TAUGHT: University of California, Riverside**

*Analytics of Power (Graduate)*

*(The) Discipline and the Confessional (Graduate)*

*Gender and Sexuality in U.S. Religious History (Upper-division)*

*Queer Religiosities (Upper-division)*

*Pedagogy (Graduate professionalization course)*

*Religion and Oppression (Upper-division)*

*Religion and Science (Lower-division)*

*Religion and Social Justice (Upper-division)*

*Religion, Society, and Culture (Lower-division)*

*Religions in Contact (Graduate)*

*Sexuality and Religion in Global Perspective (Upper-division)*

*Topics in Queer and Transgender Studies in Religion (Graduate)*

*Independent Study (Graduate): Jesus and Queer Race Relations in the Rhetoric of Richard Bruce Nugent's Gentleman Jigger*

*Independent Study (Graduate): Queer and Transgender Studies in Islam*

*Independent Study (Graduate): Atheism and Secularism*

*Independent Study (Graduate): African American Religious History*

*Independent Study (Graduate): Religion and Popular Culture*

*Independent Study (Graduate – 2 students): Metaphysical Traditions and Satanism in U.S. History*

*Independent Study (Graduate): Approaching the Academic Study of Religion*

*Independent Study (Undergraduate): Intro to the Historical Religious Experience of African AmericanX*

*Independent Study (Undergraduate): Queering Black Religious History*

## **COURSES TAUGHT: Whitman College**

*Antiquity and Modernity*

*Critical Voices*

*Feminist and Liberation Theologies*

*Gender, Body, and Religion*

*Introduction to Gender Studies*

*Men and Masculinities*

*New Religious Movements*

*Queer Religiosities*

*Queer Studies*

*Religion, Oppression, and Resistance*

*Religion and Sexuality in Global Perspective*

*Religion and Society*

*Religious Intolerance in the Contemporary U.S.*

*Seminar in the Academic Study of Religion (Senior Seminar)*

*Senior Seminar in Gender Studies*

*Women and Religion in American History*

*Women in World Religions*

*Independent Study: Contemporary Feminist Theory and Application*

*Independent Study: Mass Media Coverage of Religion*

*Independent Study: Materialist Feminism*

*Independent Study: Queer Theory*  
*Independent Study: Religion and Globalization*  
*Independent Study: Religious Individualism in the Contemporary United States*  
*Independent Study: Transgender Studies*

## **COURSES TAUGHT: University of California, Santa Barbara**

*Ethnography, Religion, and Gender*  
*Feminist Research and Practice*  
*Gender, Body, and Religion*  
*Introduction to the Study of Religion*  
*Queer Religiosities*  
*Religion, Oppression, and Resistance*  
*Religious Tolerance and Intolerance in the Contemporary U.S.*  
*Sociology of Sexual Politics*  
*Women and Religion in America*  
*Women, Politics, and Power*  
*Women, Religion, and Spirituality*  
*Women, Spirituality, and the Religious Community*  
*Women's Studies: Issues in the Humanities*

## **LANGUAGES**

French: Speaking and reading competency  
Spanish: Speaking and reading competency

## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

American Academy of Religion  
(Chair, Status of LGBTIQ Persons in the Profession Committee, 2024-2025; Chair, Committee on the Status of Women in the Profession, 2019-2021; Member, Professional Conduct Task Force, 2017-2018, Member, Committee on the Status of Women in the Profession 2017-18; Founding chair, Queer Studies in Religion Group; Founding chair, Committee on the Status of LGBTIQ Persons in the Profession; Co-chair, Sociology of Religion Group, 2013)  
American Sociological Association (Council member of Religion Section, 2011-2014; Nominations Committee of Religion Section, 2016)  
Association for the Sociology of Religion (Editorial board member, *Sociology of Religion*, 2006-2008; Council member, 2008-2010)  
Center for the Study of Religion and American Culture National Research Fellow  
International Association for the Study of Religion and Gender  
National Women's Studies Association  
Sexuality Studies Association

## **CURRENT PROJECTS**

I am currently engaged in developing a large-scale ethnographic and historical project on spirituality in leather and BDSM communities, tentatively entitled *Devotions*.