THE religious TURN

Secular and Sacred Engagements in Literature and Theory

Western Regional Conference on Christianity and Literature
May 15-17, 2014

WESTMONT
Schedule at a Glance

Thursday, May 15, 2014

5:30–6:45 p.m.  Registration and Reception, with Dessert and Coffee  
Kerrwood Hall Lobby and President’s Patio

6:45–7 p.m.  Introductions and Welcome  
Hieronymus Lounge in Kerrwood Hall

7–8:30 p.m.  Circle of Readings  
Hieronymus Lounge in Kerrwood Hall

Friday, May 16, 2014

8–8:50 a.m.  Late Registration  
Adams Center Patio

Breakfast  
Dining Commons

9–10:15 a.m.  Session 1: Concurrent Panels  
Winter Hall 106; Adams Center 216, 217, and 219

10:30–11:45 a.m.  Session 2: Concurrent Panels  
Winter Hall 106; Adams Center 216, 217, and 219

12–1:15 p.m.  Lunch  
Founders Room in Kerr Student Center

1:30–2:45 p.m.  Session 3: Concurrent Panels  
Winter Hall 106; Adams Center 216, 217, and 219

3–4:15 p.m.  Session 4: Concurrent Panels  
Winter Hall 106; Adams Center 216, 217, and 219

4:30–5:45 p.m.  Session 5: Concurrent Panels  
Winter Hall 106; Adams Center 216, 217, and 219

6–7 p.m.  Banquet Dinner  
Magnolia Lawn, near library

7:15 p.m.  Plenary Session: “Religion and the Afterlife of the Novel”  
Vincent Pecora, keynote speaker  
Winter Hall 210

Saturday, May 17, 2014

7:30–8:20 a.m.  Late Registration  
Winter Hall Rotunda, Second Floor

Breakfast  
Dining Commons

8:30–9:45 a.m.  Session 6: Concurrent Panels  
Winter Hall 106, 206, 212, and 216

10–11:15 a.m.  Session 7: Concurrent Panels  
Winter Hall 106, 206, 212, and 216

11:30 a.m.–12:45 p.m.  Session 8: Concurrent Panel  
Winter Hall 106, 206, 212, and 216

1–2:45 p.m.  Lunch and Plenary Session: “Communicating Across Faiths,” featuring  
Richard Hecht, Marilyn McEntyre, Kathleen Moore, and Gregory Orfalea  
Founders Room in Kerr Student Center

3–4 p.m.  Authors’ Spotlight  
Founders Room in Kerr Student Center
The Religious Turn: Secular and Sacred Engagements in Literature and Theory

Western Regional Conference on Christianity and Literature

May 15-17, 2014

Westmont College
Santa Barbara, California

Sponsored by the Westmont College English Department, the Office of the Provost, and Intercultural Programs
Program

Thursday, May 15, 2014

5:30–6:45 p.m. Registration and Reception, with Dessert and Coffee
Kerrwood Hall lobby and President’s Patio

6:45–7 p.m. Introductions and Welcome
Hieronymus Lounge in Kerrwood Hall
Kathryn Stelmach Artuso, Westmont College

7–8:30 p.m. Circle of Readings: Poetry and Fiction Readings, featuring Marilyn McEntyre (poems about paintings), Brett Foster, Kristin George Bagdanov, Jane Blanchard, and Gregory Orfalea
Hieronymus Lounge in Kerrwood Hall

Featured Speaker: Marilyn McEntyre is a Fellow at the Gaede Institute, Westmont College, and Adjunct Professor of Medical Humanities, UC Berkeley-UC San Francisco Joint Medical Program. She is the author of Drawn to the Light: Poems on Rembrandt’s Paintings (Eerdmans, 2006).

Friday, May 16, 2014

8–8:50 a.m. Late Registration
Adams Center Patio

Breakfast
Dining Commons in Kerr Student Center

9–10:15 a.m. Session 1—Concurrent Panels

1A Biblical and Medieval Literature
Winter Hall 106
Moderator: Gretchen C. Bartels, California Baptist University

“The Necessity of Teaching Faith through Narrative”
Bruce Baloian, Azusa Pacific University

“Unknowing Yde: Towards a Trans-Christian Hermeneutic”
Jamie Friedman, Westmont College

“Gawain’s Green Knight: Challenger, Tester, Model”
Jamie Spencer, St. Louis Community College
1B Reconsidering John Donne
Adams Center 216
Moderator: Laurie Camp Hatch, Vanguard University

“‘Everlasting Night’ and ‘Immortal Heat’: Verbal Icons in the Poetry of John Donne and George Herbert”
Emily Keery, Biola University

“Donne: Sacred and Profane”
Portia Hopkins, William Jessup University

1C Crossing Oceans, Crossing Boundaries
Adams Center 219
Moderator: Tae Sung, University of California, Irvine

“The Sacred and Singapore in Hwee Hwee Tan’s Foreign Bodies”
Jessica Gross, University of Wisconsin-Madison

“Life of Pi: Narrative Aesthetics and Divine Longing”
Andrea Ivanov-Craig, Azusa Pacific University

“Toni Morrison’s Fiction: Effortless Transitions Between the Secular and Sacred”
Patricia Andujo, Azusa Pacific University

1D The word and the Word
Adams Center 217
Moderator: Sarah Skripsky, Westmont College

“The Rhetoric of Early Christianity”
Dawson Vorderbruegge, California State University, Stanislaus

“An Experiment in Religious Discourses as Semi-Contrastive Rhetorics”
Thomas Allbaugh, Azusa Pacific University

“Charles Williams’s Theology of Publishing”
Michael J. Paulus, Jr., Seattle Pacific University

10:30–11:45 a.m. Session 2—Concurrent Panels

2A Shakespeare
Winter Hall 106
Moderator: Paul Delaney, Westmont College

“Movements of Unraveling: Towards a Dramatic Mysticism in the Tragedy of King Lear”
Joe Vuletich, Boston College, School of Theology and Ministry

“Ariel and Caliban in the Secular State: José Enrique Rodó’s ‘Liberalismo and Jacobinismo’”
José M. Martínez, The University of Texas-Pan American
2B Gender, Social Context, and Theoretical Turns in the Victorian Novel
Adams Center 216
Moderator: Cheri L. Larsen Hoeckley, Westmont College
  “St. John Rivers and Critiques of Masculinity”  
  Cheri L. Larsen Hoeckley, Westmont College
  Laurie Camp Hatch, Vanguard University
  “Feminist Reform and the Politics of Realist Representation in Gissing”  
  Maria Su Wang, Biola University

2C Southern Living with Walker Percy
Adams Center 217
Moderator: Kathryn Stelmach Artuso, Westmont College
  “The Search and the Post-Secular in the Novels of Walker Percy”  
  Cameron Wilson, William Jessup University
  “Slouching Towards Sodom: Walker Percy and the Birth of a New South”  
  Andrew Howe, La Sierra University

2D Dystopia and Redemption in Young Adult Novels
Adams Center 219
Moderator: Anne van Gend, Victoria University of Wellington
  “Towards a Christian Dystopia: Veronica Roth’s Divergent Fiction”  
  Kristen Sipper-Denlinger, Azusa Pacific University
  “Paradoxical Realism in Lois Lowry’s Fantasy Son”  
  Gail Bouslough, Azusa Pacific University
  “The Hero’s Quest for Deliverance from the Eye of the Hurricane: Dystopian Novels for Young Adults”  
  Nancy Brashear, Azusa Pacific University

12–1:15 p.m. Lunch
Founders Room in Kerr Student Center

1:30–2:45 p.m. Session 3–Concurrent Panels

3A Theoretical Renovations: Benjamin, Badiou, and Žižek
Adams Center 216
Moderator: Kathryn Stelmach Artuso, Westmont College
  “Big Papa: The Transcendence of God in a Paranoid Age”  
  Matthew J. Jimenez, Fuller Theological Seminary
  “Continental Messianisms: Badiou’s Event and Žižek’s Children of Men”  
  Caleb D. Spencer, Azusa Pacific University
  “Thinking Theology Otherwise: Benjamin, Allegory, and the Language of Things”  
  Kris Trujillo, University of California, Berkeley
3B Romantic Literature
Adams Center 219
Moderator: Cheri L. Larsen Hoeckley, Westmont College

“The Sense of Agency and the Agency of Sense in ‘Mutability’”
Jane Blanchard, Augusta, Georgia

“Secularity and the Univocity of Being in Mary Shelley’s Frankenstein”
Joseph McQueen, The Ohio State University

“Blurred by the ‘old moonlight of romance’: The Critique of Sublimated Love in the Poetry of John Keats and W. H. Auden”
Daniel Benyousky, Baylor University

3C Cormac McCarthy
Adams Center 217
Moderator: Andrew Howe, La Sierra University

“‘Bring the human race to its knees’: Postsecularism in McCarthy’s No Country for Old Men”
Joshua Boyd, Baylor University

“The Crisis of Faith and the (re)Birth of Doubt in the Works of Cormac McCarthy”
Kristina Harvey, Fordham University

3–4:15 p.m. Session 4—Concurrent Panels

4A Religion and Secularization in American Literature
Winter Hall 106
Moderator: Cameron Wilson, William Jessup University

“Natural Sabbath: Thoreau, Secularization, and the Structure of Religious Orientations”
Robert Zandstra, University of Oregon

“The Myth of the Vanishing Calvinist: The Secularization Narrative in Lydia Maria Child’s Hobomok”
Kristin Niehof Wilkes, University of Oregon

“Taking Humor Seriously in Américo Paredes’s Poetry of Prayer”
Lizzy LeRud, University of Oregon

4B Sacred Means, Secular Ends
Adams Center 217
Moderator: Jessica Gross, University of Wisconsin-Madison

“The Utopic Space of Marriage: An Immigrant Imagination”
Sharon Tang-Quan, Westmont College

“The Early Victorian Novel: Moderation in an Age of Zeal”
Ben Wiebracht, Stanford University

“The Apologetics of Suspicion: Conversion and Hermeneutics in La Nausée”
Jason Lewallen, Stanford University
4C Memoirs: Fact, Fiction, and Faith  
*Adams Center 216*  
**Moderator:** Emily Griesinger, Azusa Pacific University

“The (Re)Turn to God in Spiritual Memoir: Christian Wiman’s *My Bright Abyss: Meditation of a Modern Believer*”  
Karen M. Andrews, Westmont College

“The Naturalist Ordeal of Whittaker Chambers”  
Martin Griffin, University of Tennessee, Knoxville

Peter Ely, Seattle University

4D Reading Eschatology  
*Adams Center 219*  
**Moderator:** Chris Phillips, Lafayette University

“Thine Be the Canon: The Eschatology of Reading”  
Tiffany Eberle Kriner, Wheaton College

“Historical Affections: On the Origins of a Cultural Eschatology”  

“Promise and Hope in Karl Rahner’s Theological Aesthetics”  
Shun’ichi Takayanagi, Sophia University, Tokyo

4:30–5:45 p.m.  **Session 5—Concurrent Panels**

5A Fairy Tales  
*Adams Center 219*  
**Moderator:** Joseph McQueen, The Ohio State University  

“Wilde about Transformations: Novelistic and Christian Conversion in Oscar Wilde’s ‘The Happy Prince’ and ‘The Young King’”  
Roz Parr, Creighton University

“Saving Faith: George MacDonald’s *At the Back of the North Wind* and Victorian Belief”  
Miriam Janechek, University of Iowa

“Guilt By Association: Engaging Charges of Racism and Postcolonial Criticisms of *The Hobbit*”  
Paul Lehman-Schletewitz, Azusa Pacific University

5B International Perspectives on Pneumatology and Gender  
*Adams Center 217*  
**Moderator:** Haein Park, Biola University

“Barth’s Other: Postcolonial Suspicion of the Eurocentric Secularization Paradigm”  
Michael Jimenez, Biola University

“Spirituality, Paulo Coelho, and Brazilian Neo-Pentecostalism”  
Andy Draycott, Biola University

“The Theo-Poetics of Lament in Canadian Women’s Verse”  
Natasha Duquette, Biola University
5C Analysis or Experience? Hymnody, Poetry, and Theology
Adams Center 216
Moderator: Randall J. VanderMey, Westmont College
“The Poem as a Field of Movement: When Textual Plurality and the Imagination Meet”
Matthew Carlin, William Jessup University
“Can We Turn to Hymns Yet? Historical Poetics and Religious Reading”
Chris Phillips, Lafayette College
“How Do Theologies of Literature Help Us Understand Lyric, Narrative, and Dramatic Forms?”
David Leigh, Seattle University

5D Sacramental Readings: Literature as Communion and Sacrifice
Winter Hall 106
Moderator: Jessica Ann Hughes, University of Notre Dame
“‘He Did Believe’: The Constitutive Cry of the Sacrificial Body”
Susan M. Den Herder, Hudson County Community College
“The Logic of Enchantedness: Reason, the Senses, and Knowledge in the Works of Geoffrey Hill and Gerard Manley Hopkins”
Madeline Potter, University of Bucharest
“Walking through Walls: Margaret Atwood’s Cat’s Eye as Metatextual Literary Eucharist”
Adrien Lowery, Azusa Pacific University

6–7 p.m. Banquet Dinner
Magnolia Lawn, near library

7:15 p.m. Plenary Session: “Religion and the Afterlife of the Novel”
with keynote speaker Vincent P. Pecora
Winter Hall 210
Vincent P. Pecora is the Gordon B. Hinckley Professor of British Literature and Culture at the University of Utah and the author of Secularization and Cultural Criticism: Religion, Nation, and Modernity (University of Chicago Press, 2006).

Saturday, May 17, 2014

7:45–8:20 a.m. Late Registration
Winter Hall Rotunda, Second Floor
Breakfast
Dining Commons
8:30–9:45 a.m.  **Session 6—Concurrent Panels**

**6A (Post)colonial (Con)versions**  
*Winter Hall 206*  
**Moderator: Karen M. Andrews, Westmont College**

“Translating Ethics, Synthesizing Values: The Indian Christian Convert in A. Madhaviah’s *Clarinda*”  
Kristen Bergman Waha, University of California, Davis

“As Preached and Practiced: Charles Alexander Eastman’s Decolonizing Critique of Christianity”  
Jill N. Walker Gonzalez, University of New Mexico

“Junipero Serra and the Indians of California”  
Gregory Orfalea, Westmont College

**6B Theoretical Renovations II: Derrida, Pragmatism, and Espionage**  
*Winter Hall 106*

**Moderator: Eleanor Craig, Harvard Divinity School**

“God as ‘I AM’: Structure & Sign in The Post-Secular Academy”  
Keith Garton, Concordia University, Irvine

“The Religious Turn in American Pragmatism”  
Tae Sung, University of California, Irvine

“Unsteady Beliefs: Espionage Narrative in the Age of Fundamentalisms”  
Martin Griffin, University of Tennessee, Knoxville

**6C Fantasy and Dostoevsky**  
*Winter Hall 216*  
**Moderator: Jason Lewallen, Stanford University**

Julie Straight, Northwest Nazarene University

“The Idol of Self or the Icon of Love: Reading Dostoevsky with Jean-Luc Marion”  
Bret Saunders, John Witherspoon College
10–11:15 a.m.  **Session 7—Concurrent Panels**

**7A Flannery O’Connor**  
*Winter Hall 106*  
**Moderator: Kathryn Stelmach Artuso, Westmont College**

“Negative Space: The Enlightening Absence of Religious Faith in Flannery O’Connor’s Works”  
Rachel Austring, Claremont Graduate University

“Accurately Naming the Excess of Being: Reading Flannery O’Connor’s ‘Parker’s Back’ and John Hawkes’s *Second Skin* in light of Jean Luc Marion’s Phenomenology of Givenness”  
Daniel Train, Duke Divinity School

“Slavoj Žižek and the Perverse Orthodoxy of Flannery O’Connor’s Catholic Stories”  
George Piggford, Stonehill College

**7B A Better Secular? Virginia Woolf, Marilynne Robinson, and Orhan Pamuk**  
*Winter Hall 206*  

“The Individual and the Sacred: Existential Thought in Marilynne Robinson’s *Gilead*”  
Robert Searway, California State University, Stanislaus

“Two Visions of the Secular: Orhan Pamuk’s Snow and Marilynne Robinson’s *Gilead*”  
Kevin Seidel, Eastern Mennonite University

“Secular Unbelief and Literary Modernism: Virginia Woolf and *Mrs. Dalloway*”  
Emily Griesinger, Azusa Pacific University

**7C Ecocriticism**  
*Winter Hall 216*  
**Moderator: Kristin George Bagdanov, Colorado State University**

“The Field is Ripe: Christian Literary Scholarship, Postcolonial Ecocriticism, and Environmentalism”  
Joshua Mabie, University of Wisconsin-Whitewater

“A Canticle to the Waterbirds’: Brother Antoninus, Ecocriticism, and the Value of a Christian Environmental Perspective”  
Marc Malandra, Biola University

“A Natural Path for Ecocriticism”  
James Lu, California Baptist University
7D 17th- and 18th-century Literature  
*Winter Hall 212*  
**Moderator: Mary Collier, Westmont College**

Matthew Motyka, University of San Francisco

“The 'Living Guide': Political and Religious Allegory in John Dryden's *The Hind and the Panther*”  
Jonathan Callis, University of Notre Dame

“Are Laurence Sterne’s Sermons and Satires Funny in the Same Way?”  
Ryan J. Stark, Corban University

**11:30–12:45 p.m. Session 8—Concurrent Panels**

8A Tattoos, Trauma, and the Body  
*Winter Hall 216*  
**Moderator: Jamie Friedman, Westmont College**

“Words for Monsters: Trauma and the Literary”  
Eleanor Craig, Harvard Divinity School

“Ideology, Althusser, and the Incarnation”  
Gretchen C. Bartels, California Baptist University

“Body Art: Sacred and Secular Text in Herman Melville's *Moby-Dick*”  
John J. Norton, Concordia University, Irvine

8B Reading Atonement  
*Winter Hall 106*  
**Moderator: Tiffany Eberle Kriner, Wheaton College**

“The Narrative Form of Atonement Theology: A Secularizing Force?”  
Jessica Ann Hughes, University of Notre Dame

“Re-enchanting Atonement: Self-Sacrifice and Gift in Teenage Fantasy Works”  
Anne van Gend, Victoria University of Wellington

“Doing Theology with Mitch and Morrie: Why We May Need New Explanations of the Atonement”  
Mark G. McKim, First Baptist Church, Regina, Saskatchewan

“Reconciling Interpretation: Reading as Atonement”  
Telford Work, Westmont College

8C Rural America Writes Back  
*Winter Hall 212*  
**Moderator: Paul Delaney, Westmont College**

“Wendell Berry's 'Thicker Than Liquor': More Than A Tall Tale”  
Gwen W. Macallister, Covenant College

“The Sacred/Secular Home on the Range: Kent Haruf's *Benediction* and 'change by slow accretion'”  
D. W. Schmidt, Holy Names University
8D Popular and Postmodern Fictions
Winter Hall 206
Moderator: Gail Bouslough, Azusa Pacific University

“Purgatory in the Inkling Imagination”
Kathryn Mogk, Pepperdine University

“Harry Potter and the Thirst For the Supernatural In a Postmodern Age”
Erika Fiore, California Baptist University

“Postmodern Re-enchantment: Transcendence through Language in the Works of Don DeLillo”
Sarabeth Flowers, The University of Texas at Austin

1–2:45 p.m. Lunch and Plenary Session: “Communicating Across Faiths,” featuring Richard Hecht, Marilyn McEntyre, Kathleen Moore, and Gregory Orfalea
Founders Room in Kerr Student Center

Richard Hecht is Professor of Religious Studies at UC Santa Barbara and the author of To Rule Jerusalem (with Roger Friedland, University of California Press, 2000); Marilyn McEntyre is a Fellow at the Gaede Institute, Westmont College, and Adjunct Professor of Medical Humanities, UC Berkeley-UC San Francisco Joint Medical Program; Kathleen Moore is Chair and Professor of Religious Studies at UC Santa Barbara and the author of The Unfamiliar Abode: Islamic Law in the United States and Britain (Oxford University Press, 2010); Gregory Orfalea is the author of Journey to the Sun: Junipero Serra’s Dream and the Founding of California (Scribner, 2014).

3–4 p.m. Authors’ Spotlight
Founders Room in Kerr Student Center

Conference participants can share information about their book publications, and a display table will be available.

The 2015 Western Regional Conference on Christianity and Literature will be held at Seattle University, May 15-16. The tentative theme is “Religion in Literature and Film During an Interdisciplinary Age.”

Contact David Leigh for more information: dleigh@seattleu.edu.
Western Regional CCL Participants, May 2014

Thomas Allbaugh is Associate Professor of English at Azusa Pacific University, where he coordinates the Freshman Writing Seminar program. For information on the second edition of Pretexts for Writing, his textbook for first-year college writing courses, visit www.thomasallbaugh.com.


Patricia Andujo is Associate Professor of English at Azusa Pacific University, where she also serves as director of the Ethnic Studies program. Her teaching and research focus on African American literature.


Rachel Austring is a PhD candidate at Claremont Graduate University. Her research interests are nineteenth-century British literature, religion in literature, and pedagogy in the humanities.

Bruce Baloian is Professor of Religion at Azusa Pacific University, where he teaches Old Testament and the Synoptic Gospels. He recently published an article on “Communicating Truth to the Religiously Secure,” intertwining Kierkegaard and the Gospel of Luke.

Gretchen C. Bartels is Assistant Professor of English and lead faculty for English in the Online and Professional Studies division of California Baptist University. She recently completed her dissertation on the role of nineteenth-century periodical editors in the literary marketplace in Great Britain. She is also interested in the use of fairy tales and folklore in the writings of Charles Dickens. Her work has appeared in Literature and Theology.

Daniel Benyousky is a PhD candidate at Baylor University, where he is focusing on twentieth-century transatlantic poetry and drama.

Jane Blanchard studied English at Wake Forest University before earning a doctorate from Rutgers University. She is currently an independent scholar and writer in Georgia. Her critical articles and poems have appeared widely.

Gail Bouslough is Assistant Professor of English at Azusa Pacific University, specializing in children’s literature. Her dissertation on the fantasy in Lewis Carroll’s Alice books and L. Frank Baum’s Oz books includes a special focus on the power of illustrations, an ongoing research interest. She serves on the executive committee of the Charlotte Huck Children’s Literature Festival, which is sponsored annually by the University of Redlands.

Joshua Boyd is a PhD candidate at Baylor University. His current research interest is the reception of Dante in nineteenth-century America.

Nancy Brashear is Professor of English at Azusa Pacific University, where she teaches children’s and adolescent literature. She has presented on reading, literacy, the Common Core Standards, and other teaching-related topics, and has taught at the university level in both Zimbabwe and Kazakhstan.

Wilson Brisset is Associate Professor of English at the United States Air Force Academy. He has published on early American writers such as Edward Taylor, Jonathan Edwards, Phillis Wheatley, and Washington Irving.

Jonathan Callis is a PhD candidate at the University of Notre Dame. He is working on a dissertation on Christian allegory in British literature of the Restoration and eighteenth century.
Matthew Carlin earned a BA in English from William Jessup University in 2013. He will begin an MFA in poetry at the University of Pittsburgh in the fall.

Mary Collier is Professor of French at Westmont College.

Eleanor Craig is a doctoral student in Religion and Society at Harvard University. She is currently writing a dissertation that explores theoretical and theological conceptions of trauma.

Paul Delaney is Professor of English at Westmont College.

Susan M. Den Herder teaches writing at Hudson County Community College in Jersey City, New Jersey. Formative experiences include a rural pietist upbringing, study at Union Theological Seminary, and work in Bahrain.

Andy Draycott is Associate Professor of Theology and Christian Ethics at Biola University. He regularly co-teaches upper undergraduate integration seminars with colleagues from English, Psychology, Political Science, and Art. His focus on Paulo Coelho and Christianity in Brazil is rooted in his experience growing up in that country as the son of English missionaries.

Natasha Duquette is Associate Professor at Biola University, where she chairs the English Department. She has edited two collections, Sublimer Aspects: Interfaces between Literature, Aesthetics, and Theology (2007) and Jane Austen and the Arts: Elegance, Propriety, and Harmony (2013). Her monograph Veiled Intent: Dissenting Women’s Aesthetic Approach to Biblical Hermeneutics is forthcoming with Pickwick Publications.

Tiffany Eberle Kriner is Associate Professor of English at Wheaton College (IL), where she teaches courses in American literature and writing. Her book The Future of the Word: An Eschatology of Reading is forthcoming from Fortress Press in the fall of 2014.

Peter Ely, SJ, is Associate Professor of Theology and a Vice President for Mission and Ministry at Seattle University. His research focuses on original sin, compassion, and forgiveness.

Erika Fiore lives in Yucaipa, California and is a senior English major at California Baptist University.

Sarabeth Flowers is a graduating English and French double major at the University of Texas at Austin. She is writing a thesis on the way belief and mystical transcendence are portrayed in postmodern American fiction, with an emphasis on the works of Don DeLillo.

Brett Foster is Associate Professor of English at Wheaton College (IL). He is the author of two collections of poetry, The Garbage Eater and Fall Run Road, as well as Shakespeare’s Life, a volume in the “Backgrounds to Shakespeare” reference series.

Jamie Friedman is Assistant Professor of English at Westmont College. In addition to her work on transgender hermeneutics, she is also writing about the acoustic terrain of Sir Gawain and the Green Knight.

Keith Garton is a Resident Faculty at Concordia University, Irvine. He teaches in Concordia’s Core Curriculum and specializes in American literature and literary theory. His research interests include the American short story, pop culture literature, and the intersections of Christian thought and literary theory.

Kristin George Bagdanov is a Lilly Graduate Fellow and a graduate student in the MFA poetry program at Colorado State University. Her poems have recently appeared in Image, Los Angeles Review, and 32 Poems. Her research interests include ecopoetics and ecocriticism.

Emily Griesinger is Professor of English at Azusa Pacific University. She represents the western region on the board of CCL and serves as the Lilly faculty representative for APU. She has edited The Gift of Story: Narrating Hope in a Postmodern World (Baylor UP, 2006), and is currently working on a book that examines secular variants of Christian compassion in women writers from Mary Shelley to Virginia Woolf.

Martin Griffin is Associate Professor of English at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. He is the author of Ashes of the Mind: War and Memory in Northern Literature, 1865-1900 (2009) and, with Constance DeVereaux, Narrative, Identity, and the Map of Cultural Policy: Once Upon a Time in a Globalized World (Ashgate, 2013). He is currently editing an essay collection, American Political Fictions, which addresses the interactions between literary culture and political identities from the Puritan era to the present.
Jessica Gross is a PhD candidate in comparative literature at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She works in English, French, Spanish, and Tagalog, and focuses primarily on the modern novel and the graphic novel. Her dissertation is entitled “Reassembling the World”: Power, Violence, and Vision in Verbal and Visual Narratives.

Kristina Harvey teaches English at Wilton High School in Wilton, CT. She is currently researching the intersection of the sacred and the secular in literary texts.

Laurie Camp Hatch is Assistant Professor of English at Vanguard University. Her research interests involve the intersections of science, religion, and literature in the nineteenth century. Her dissertation examined the influence of nineteenth-century developments in physiological optics on the poetry of Gerard Manley Hopkins. She is excited to return to her alma mater, Westmont, for this conference.

Richard Hecht is Professor of Religious Studies at UC Santa Barbara and the author of To Rule Jerusalem (with Roger Friedland, University of California Press, 2000). He is interested in the deep contextualization of religion in its lived environments and most centrally the intersections of religion, politics, and culture.

Portia Hopkins is Chair of the Department of English at William Jessup University in Rocklin, California. She is especially interested in the poetry of Donne and Herbert, and in pedagogical approaches to the teaching of literature.

Andrew Howe is Associate Professor of History at La Sierra University in Riverside, California. His research interests include the manner in which popular film, television, and literature reflect truths about American history and culture.

Jessica Ann Hughes is a PhD candidate at the University of Notre Dame. Her current research, which includes a soon-to-be published essay on Charles Dickens’s The Life of Our Lord, focuses on Jesus in the Victorian period.

Andrea Ivanov-Craig is Professor of English at Azusa Pacific University. She is currently shaping a book on the late fiction of Andre Dubus. As the Far Western Regent of Sigma Tau Delta, she invites anyone with an interest in that organization to contact her.

Miriam Janechek is a PhD candidate at the University of Iowa. Her dissertation project considers the role of death and belief in Victorian narratives for children.

Matthew J. Jimenez received his BA in English at Biola University and his MAT in Theology and Culture at Fuller Theological Seminary. He is now working on his MA in Education with Credential at the University of Southern California.

Michael Jimenez is receiving his PhD in Church History at Fuller Theological Seminary this spring. He currently teaches history at Biola University and theology at Azusa Pacific University. He has written a number of essays on Karl Barth in conversation with figures like Slavoj Žižek, Alain Badiou, and Jacques Ranciere.

Emily Keery teaches first-year writing classes at Biola University. She also coordinates the English Success Center at Cypress College.

Cheri L. Larsen Hoeckley is Professor of English and Coordinator of Gender Studies at Westmont College. Her research and teaching focus on Victorian women writers, nineteenth-century Christianity, marriage law, and the novel. She has been involved in CCL as chair of the book-of-the-year committee and as a member of the nominating committee, and she enjoys the camaraderie of the Western Regional meetings.

Paul Lehman-Schletewitz teaches writing, literature, and biblical studies at Azusa Pacific University. He loves Tolkien, is ambivalent toward Peter Jackson’s adaptations of The Lord of the Rings, and is offended by Jackson’s looser maladaptation of The Hobbit.

David Leigh, SJ, is Professor of English at Seattle University. He has written dozens of articles on philosophy, theology, and literature, and has published two books, Circuitous Journeys: Modern Spiritual Autobiography (Fordham UP, 2000) and Apocalyptic Patterns in Twentieth Century Fiction (University of Notre Dame Press, 2008). He will serve as host for the May 2015 Western Regional CCL Meeting at Seattle University.

Lizzy LeRud is a PhD candidate in English at the University of Oregon. She specializes in American literature post-1850, with a focus in poetry and poetics. Her research interests include the history and politics of literary form, women writers, and questions of American identity as understood through gender, race, and ethnicity.
Jason Lewallen will finish his PhD this summer at Stanford University and begin teaching in the fall at the University of Dallas. His research focuses on French Catholic and Existentialist fiction of the 1930s.

Adrien Lowery is Associate Professor of English at Azusa Pacific University. Her literary interests lie in women’s literature, Renaissance drama, American and Canadian writers, and Celtic culture.

James Lu is Professor of English at California Baptist University. His major interest in teaching and scholarship centers on literary theory and intercultural studies.

Joshua Mabie is Assistant Professor of English at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, where he also serves as the Faculty Sustainability Fellow. His current project considers ways that nineteenth-century representations of Palestine imaginatively desolated the region for subsequent generations of American readers and travelers.

Gwen W. Macallister is Associate Professor of English at Covenant College in Lookout Mountain, Georgia, where she focuses on twentieth-century American literature. Her current research interests include graphic narratives and the ethics of reading.

Marc Malandra is Associate Professor of English at Biola University, where he teaches courses in contemporary literature and creative writing. He has published articles on Elizabeth Bishop and Li-Young Lee, and his own poetry appears widely.

José M. Martínez is Professor of Spanish Literature at The University of Texas Pan American. He has published on secularization in Latin American modernist literature and on realism and mimesis in fantastic short stories.

Marilyn McEntyre is a Fellow at the Gaede Institute, Westmont College, and Adjunct Professor of Medical Humanities, UC Berkeley-UC San Francisco Joint Medical Program. She is the author of numerous books, including Caring for Words in a Culture of Lies (Eerdmans, 2009) and Drawn to the Light: Poems on Rembrandt’s Paintings (Eerdmans, 2006). Her most recent book, What’s in a Phrase? – Pausing where Scripture Gives You Pause (Eerdmans, 2014) explores the contemplative practice of lectio divina.

Mark McKim is the Senior Minister of First Baptist Church, Regina, Saskatchewan. He is the author of a one-volume systematic theology, Christian Theology for a Secular Society: Singing the Lord’s Song in a Strange Land (Wipf & Stock, 2008). His current research is focused on theology of worship.

Joseph McQueen is a doctoral student at The Ohio State University, where he studies Romantic and Victorian literature. His essay on Coleridge is forthcoming in Christianity and Literature.

Kathryn Mogk received her BA in English from Pepperdine University in 2013. Next fall she will begin her PhD at the University of Minnesota with a focus on the medieval period.

Kathleen Moore is Chair and Professor of Religious Studies at UC Santa Barbara and the author of The Unfamiliar Abode: Islamic Law in the United States and Britain (Oxford University Press, 2010). Drawing from anthropological and sociological approaches to the study of law and society, her research examines how religion and politics intersect to construct ‘Muslim’ as a public identity.

Matthew Motyka is Assistant Professor of Modern Languages at the University of San Francisco, where he teaches French and Italian. His research interests encompass the early modern Romance literatures as well as foreign language pedagogy that includes a spiritual and theological dimension. He recently co-authored an article entitled “Subjectivity and Spirituality during Study Abroad: A Case Study,” published in L2.

John J. Norton is Professor of English at Concordia University in Irvine, California, where he helped to develop both the Core Curriculum for the Arts and Sciences department and the Around-the-World semester, an international study and service program.

Gregory Orfalea is the author of Journey to the Sun: Junipero Serra’s Dream and the Founding of California (Scribner, 2014). His memoir Angeleno Days was a finalist for the PEN USA Prize. He has taught at the Claremont Colleges, Georgetown University, and Westmont College.

Haein Park is an assistant professor of English at Biola University.

Roz Parr is a graduate student at Creighton University. Her areas of interest include Irish literature and feminist criticism.
Michael J. Paulus, Jr., is the University Librarian and Associate Professor of English at Seattle Pacific University. His research interests include the past, present, and future of libraries as well as the relationship between theology and technology.

Vincent P. Pecora is the Gordon B. Hinckley Professor of British Literature and Culture at the University of Utah. His most recent book is Secularization and Cultural Criticism: Religion, Nation and Modernity (University of Chicago Press, 2006), a study of rival accounts of secularization in the modern West. His forthcoming book, Secularization without End: Beckett, Mann, and Coetzee (University of Notre Dame Press, 2015), explores the ways religious thought has been re-purposed in the postmodern novel.

Chris Phillips is Associate Professor of English at Lafayette College in Easton, Pennsylvania. He is the author of Epic in American Culture, Settlement to Reconstruction (Johns Hopkins UP, 2012), and is now at work on a history of reading hymnbooks, 1700-1850.

George Piggford, CSC, teaches twentieth-century literature at Stonehill College in Easton, Massachusetts. He has published work on British modernism, contemporary fiction, and critical theory. Forthcoming are essays on Flannery O’Connor and St. John of the Cross.

Madeline Potter is a graduate student at the University of Bucharest. She has recently presented papers on the relationship between cultural memory and sacramentality.

Bret Saunders is Assistant Professor of Humanities at John Witherspoon College in Rapid City, South Dakota. His dissertation examined the role of rhetoric and metaphor in several modern rationalist philosophers. Recent projects have focused on C. S. Lewis’s philosophy of literature and the relation between visibility and dialogue in Dostoevsky.

D. W. Schmidt is Associate Professor of English at Holy Names University. He has found new scholarly life in the CCL, presenting papers at the last three Western Regional meetings. One of these papers, on Marilyn Robinson, grew into an article that will soon be published in Renascence.

Robert Searway is a graduate student at CSU Stanislaus, where he is completing his Master’s thesis on the work of Elizabeth Gaskell.

Kevin Seidel is Assistant Professor of English at Eastern Mennonite University in Harrisonburg, Virginia. He is working on a book project tentatively titled Reading Novels, Reading Bibles: Representing the Secular in the English Enlightenment.

Kristen Sipper-Denlinger is Assistant Professor of English at Azusa Pacific University. Her research interests include the effect of nineteenth-century secular revolution on evangelical children’s publishing, and the intersection of Christian faith and young adult dystopias.

Sarah Skripsyk is Associate Professor of English at Westmont College.

Caleb D. Spencer is Assistant Professor of English at Azusa Pacific University, where he is now finishing a book project on Protestant Postmodernism: Theory and Theology, Affect and Art.

Jamieson Spencer is a just-about-fully-retired professor of English at St. Louis Community College. He is currently active with the St. Louis Symphony Volunteers Association and as an advocacy chair for the Opera Theatre of St. Louis. He is especially interested in the vocal music of Handel, Poulenc, and Purcell.

Ryan J. Stark is Associate Professor of English at Corban University. He is the author of Rhetoric, Science, and Magic in Seventeenth-Century England (Catholic University of America Press, 2009). More recently he has published articles on Paradise Lost and Tristram Shandy.

Julie Straight is Associate Professor of English at Northwest Nazarene University in Nampa, Idaho. She has published on late eighteenth- and early nineteenth-century British women writers such as Elizabeth Hamilton and Mary Lamb; she is now working on theology in twentieth- and twenty-first-century American children’s literature.

Tae Sung is a PhD candidate at UC Irvine, where he is a Strauss Fellow in English and a Koehn Fellow in critical theory. His dissertation is on nineteenth-century theories of dynamic gifts translated from theologies of divine grace.

Shun’ichi Takayanagi left Fordham University several decades ago with a PhD in English and a copy of Northrop Frye’s Anatomy of Criticism, which was just then published. He has remained interested in literary theory ever since.
Sharon Tang-Quan is Assistant Professor of English at Westmont College. Her current research examines hope and utopia in transnational Chinese American narratives.

Daniel Train received his PhD in English at the Religion and Literature program at Baylor University. He is currently a postdoctoral scholar for the Duke Initiatives in Theology and the Arts in Durham, NC, where he is completing a book on the theological aesthetics and hermeneutics of Flannery O’Connor.

Kris Trujillo is a PhD candidate in Rhetoric at UC Berkeley. His dissertation project is entitled *Jubilee of the Heart: Song, Sense, and the Poetic Construction of Mystical Experience*. It identifies a musical genealogy of Christian mysticism at the nexus of monastic psalter recitation and the Song of Songs commentary tradition.

Ann van Gend is a doctoral student at Victoria University of Wellington. She became a priest in the Anglican church of Australia in her late twenties after some years teaching English literature and music in Zambia and South Africa. She is now the executive director of the Anglican Schools Office, Aoteroa, working with 45 primary and secondary schools across New Zealand and Polynesia.

Randall J. VanderMey is Professor of English at Westmont College.

Dawson Vorderbruegge is earning an MA in rhetoric and composition at CSU Stanislaus. He researches early Christian writing and coaches track and field.

Joe Vuletich is a recent graduate from the Boston College School of Theology and Ministry. His academic inclinations include the phenomenological interaction between communities and texts, the metaphorical and analogical psychology of readership, and the theological methods implicitly reconstituted in “classics” of literature and culture.

Kristen Bergman Waha is a PhD candidate in comparative literature at UC Davis. Her dissertation is entitled *Transnational Transformations: Women’s Conversion Narratives and Comparative Religion in Nineteenth-Century Britain and India*.

Jill N. Walker Gonzalez is a doctoral student at the University of New Mexico. She is writing a dissertation on Poland in the nineteenth-century American literary imagination.

Maria Su Wang is an assistant professor of English at Biola University. Her research interests include Victorian literature and culture, the theory and history of the novel, and continental sociology.

Ben Wiebracht (pronounced Wee-brockt) is a PhD candidate at Stanford University. His dissertation is entitled *Cousins and Lovers: A History of the English Love Plot, 1600-1895*.

Kristin Niehof Wilkes is a PhD candidate at the University of Oregon, where she is studying the relationship between religion, secularization, and the novel form in the writing of nineteenth-century American women.

Cameron Wilson is Assistant Professor of English at William Jessup University in Rocklin, California. He has a particular research interest in writers of the American South.

Telford Work is Professor of Religious Studies at Westmont College. He is the author of *Ain’t Too Proud to Beg: Living Through the Lord’s Prayer* (Eerdmans, 2007).

Robert Zandstra is originally from rural Indiana and is now a doctoral student in English at the University of Oregon. He studies connections between religion and environment in literature, especially between secularization and changing environmental attitudes in mid-nineteenth century U.S. literature.
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The Admissions Office is located in Kerwood Hall.