

# David Allen Michelson

Divinity School  
Vanderbilt University  
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## Current Appointments

### Vanderbilt University

Associate Professor of the History of Christianity, Divinity School (2018-present)  
Associate Professor, Graduate Department of Religion (2018-present)  
Associate Professor, Department of Classical and Mediterranean Studies (2019-present)  
Affiliate Faculty, Department of History (2015-present)  
Affiliate Faculty, Program in Islamic Studies (2014-present)

## Past Appointments

### Vanderbilt University

Assistant Professor of the History of Christianity, Divinity School (2012-2018)  
Assistant Professor, Graduate Department of Religion (2012-2018)  
Affiliate Faculty, Program in Classical and Mediterranean Studies (2016-2019)

### University of Alabama (2008-2012)

Assistant Professor, Ancient World and Late Antiquity, Department of History

### Villanova University (Fall 2007)

Visiting Assistant Professor, Augustine and Culture Seminar Program

### Princeton University (2006-2008)

Acting Associate Director, Center for the Study of Religion

## Degrees

**Ph.D.**, History (Program in the Ancient World), 2007, Princeton University

**Dissertation:** "Orthodoxy and the Spiritual Struggle in the World of Philoxenos of Mabbug (470-523)"

**Committee:** Peter Brown (Advisor), Averil Cameron, Slobodan Ćurčić, and Maria Mavroudi

**M.A.**, History, *with distinction*, 2003, Princeton University

**Fields:** Late Antiquity, Byzantium, High Medieval Europe

**M.A.**, Church History, *Summa Cum Laude*, 2001, Trinity Evangelical Divinity School

**Thesis:** "*La perpétuité de la foi: The Appeal to Eastern Christianity of Jean Claude's Eucharistic Polemics, Viewed in its French Reformation and Counter Reformation Contexts*"

**Committee:** John Woodbridge (Advisor), Scott Manetsch, Dale Van Kley

**Fields:** History of Christianity, Reformation History, Christianity in America

**B.A.**, French and Political Science, *Summa Cum Laude*, 1998, Hillsdale College

## Further Education

**Wolfson College, Oxford University**, Visiting Post-Graduate Student, Faculties of Classics and Oriental Studies, 2004-2005

**American School of Classical Studies at Athens**, Summer Program: Ancient and Medieval Turkey, held in Turkey, 2004

**Aestiva Romae Latinitas Reginaldi Foster**, Summer Latin Course, Rome, Italy, 2002  
Instructor: Reginald Foster, O.C.D., Vatican Secretariat of State

**L'Université des Sciences Humaines de Strasbourg/La Ministère de l'Éducation Nationale**, Diplôme Approfondi de Langue Française, 1998

**Universitatea Babeș-Bolyai**, Diploma Cursului de Vara Civilizația Românească (Summer Course Diploma), 1997

## Honors and Awards

Chancellor Faculty Fellow, Vanderbilt University, 2019-2021

Service Award, Student Government Association, Divinity School, Vanderbilt University, 2016

Distinguished Faculty Award, Organization of Black Graduate and Professional Students, Vanderbilt University, 2013

David G. Bauer Grantsmanship Training Fellowship, University of Alabama, College of Arts and Sciences, 2010-2011

Dissertation Research Fellow, Princeton Center for the Study of Religion, 2005-2006

Stanley J. Seeger Fellowship, Princeton Program in Hellenic Studies, 2004 & 2006

Tousimis Award for Best Graduate Student Paper, Byzantine Studies Conference, 2004 & 2006

Antony and Isabelle Raubitschek Award, American School of Classical Studies at Athens, 2004

Fellow, Butler College, Princeton University, 2003-2004

J.F. Coustopoulos Prize in Hellenic Studies, Princeton Program in Hellenic Studies, 2001-2003

## Monographs

David A. Michelson, *The Library of Paradise: A History of Contemplative Reading in the Monasteries of the Church of the East*, Oxford Early Christian Studies (Oxford: Oxford University Press, in press 2022).

David A. Michelson, *The Practical Christology of Philoxenos of Mabbug*, Oxford Early Christian Studies (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2014).

<http://www.oxfordscholarship.com/view/10.1093/acprof:oso/9780198722960.001.0001/acprof-9780198722960>

Reviews: SBL Panel (2015), [Orientalia Christiana Periodica \(2015\)](#), [Marginalia/LA Review of Books \(2016\)](#), [Hugoye: Journal of Syriac Studies \(2016\)](#), [Revue des Études Byzantines \(2016\)](#), [Journal of Theological Studies \(2017\)](#), [Journal of Scottish Theology \(2017\)](#), [Journal of Early Christian Studies \(2017\)](#)

## Co-Edited Volumes

Petre Guran and David A. Michelson, eds., *Faith and Community around the Mediterranean: In Honor of Peter R. L. Brown*, *Études Byzantines et Post Byzantines*, new series, vol. I (VIII) (Bucharest: Académie roumaine; Heidelberg: Herlo Verlag UG, 2019 [2020]).  
<http://hdl.handle.net/1803/16324>

David A. Michelson and Robert A. Kitchen, eds., *Hugoye: Journal of Syriac Studies* 13.1-2 (Winter & Summer 2010): “A Double Issue on Philoxenos of Mabbug”  
<http://www.bethmardutho.org/index.php/hugoye/volume-index/83.html>

## Digital Humanities Scholarship (Editor, Co-Editor, or Co-Developer)

Winona Salesky and David A. Michelson, developers, *The Srophé App* (*Srophé Software*, 2014-present). Status: This project is an open source customization of eXist-DB for TEI XML based projects focused on digital cultural heritage. The application is now in use by more than 10 different digital humanities projects. Information: <https://srophe.app/> Codebase: <https://github.com/srophe/srophe>

Joseph L. Rife, Phillip I. Lieberman, and David A. Michelson, eds. *Caesarea Maritima: A Collection of Testimonia*, technical editors David A. Michelson and William L. Potter (Caesarea City and Port Exploration Project, 2021). <https://caesarea-maritima.org/index.html> Status: Beta testing, not yet publicly released.

David A. Michelson, general editor, *Syriaca.org: The Syriac Reference Portal*. <https://syriaca.org>  
Since 2010, I have served as general editor of Syriaca.org. A collaborative digital reference work for Syriac studies. I have also served as a co-editor for a number of individual reference works published online by Syriaca.org (see below for the list).

David A. Michelson and Nathan P. Gibson, eds., *The New Handbook of Syriac Literature* (Syriaca.org: The Syriac Reference Portal, forthcoming). <http://syriaca.org/nhsl> Status: Beta testing, not yet publicly released.

David A. Michelson, Jeanne-Nicole Mellon Saint-Laurent, Nathan P. Gibson, and Daniel L. Schwartz, eds., *The Syriac Biographical Dictionary* (Syriaca.org: The Syriac Reference Portal, forthcoming). <http://syriaca.org/persons> Status: Beta testing, not yet publicly released.

Thomas A. Carlson and David A. Michelson, eds., *The Syriac Gazetteer* (Syriaca.org: The Syriac Reference Portal, 2014, 2019), <http://syriaca.org/geo>. Status: publicly released in 2014, revised in 2019 with William L. Potter as co-editor.

David A. Michelson and Nathan P. Gibson, eds., *A Guide to Syriac Authors* (Syriaca.org: The Syriac Reference Portal, 2016). <http://syriaca.org/authors>

Jeanne-Nicole Mellon Saint-Laurent and David A. Michelson, eds., *Qadishe: A Guide to the Syriac Saints* (Syriaca.org: The Syriac Reference Portal, 2016). <http://syriaca.org/q>

Jeanne-Nicole Mellon Saint-Laurent, David A. Michelson, Ugo Zanetti, and Claude Detienne, eds., *Bibliotheca Hagiographica Syriaca Electronica* (Syriaca.org: The Syriac Reference Portal, 2016). <http://syriaca.org/bhse>

## Digital Humanities Scholarship (Technical Editor)

Joseph L. Rife and Phillip I. Lieberman, *Caesarea Maritima: A Comprehensive Bibliography*, technical editors David A. Michelson and William L. Potter (Caesarea City and Port Exploration Project, 2021). <https://caesarea-maritima.org/index.html> Status: Beta testing, not yet publicly released.

## Digital Humanities Scholarship (Technical Editor) continued

*The Beth Qaṭraye Gazetteer*. General editors: Haya Al Thani, Saif al-Murikhi, Abdulrahim Abu-Husayn, Abdul Rahman Chamseddine, and Mario Kozah. Contributing editors: Thomas Carlson and Tobias Scheunchen. Technical Editors: David A. Michelson and William L. Potter. Published 2020. <https://bqgazetteer.bethmardutho.org/>

*Digital Syriac Corpus*. General editor: James Walters. Editorial board: David G.K. Taylor, Aaron Butts, Muriel Debié, Kristian S. Heal, George A. Kiraz, David A. Michelson, Daniel L. Schwartz, Dorothea Weltecke. Published 2018. <https://syriacorporus.org/>

e-GEDSH: *Gorgias Encyclopedic Dictionary of the Syriac Heritage, Electronic Edition*. Print edition editors: Sebastian Brock, George A. Kiraz, Lucas Van Rompay, and Aaron Butts. Technical editors for the digital edition David A. Michelson, Ute Possek, Daniel L. Schwartz. Published 2018. <https://gedsh.bethmardutho.org/index.html>

## Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

Nathan P. Gibson and David A. Michelson. “Modeling a Body of Literature in TEI: *The New Handbook of Syriac Literature*,” *Journal of the Text Encoding Initiative* (forthcoming). Accepted for publication, undergoing revision after peer-review.

David A. Michelson, “Using Linked Open Data to Model Cultural Heritage Information: The Research Questions and Data Structures of the Syriaca.Org Knowledge Graph,” in *Linked Open Data for the Ancient Mediterranean: Structures, Practices, Prospects*, edited by Sarah E. Bond, Paul Dilley, and Ryan Horne, *ISAW Papers* 20 (2021). <http://hdl.handle.net/2333.1/69p8d8cc>.

Nathan P. Gibson, David A. Michelson, and Daniel L. Schwartz. “From Manuscript Catalogues to a Handbook of Syriac Literature: Modeling an Infrastructure for Syriaca.org,” *Journal of Data Mining and Digital Humanities*, Special Issue on Computer-Aided Processing of Intertextuality in Ancient Languages (2017). <http://jdmhd.episciences.org/1395>

David A. Michelson, “Mixed Up by Time and Chance? Using Digital Methods to Re-Orient the Syriac Religious Literature of Late Antiquity,” *Journal of Religion, Media and Digital Culture* 5.1 (2016), 136-82. <https://www.jrmdc.com/journal/article/view/80>

David A. Michelson, “A Bibliographic Clavis to the Works of Philoxenos of Mabbug,” *Hugoye: Journal of Syriac Studies* 13.2 (Summer 2010), 273–338. <http://syrcom.cua.edu/hugoye/Vol13No2/HV13N2Michelson.pdf>

## Peer-Reviewed Book Chapters

David A. Michelson, “The Rise and Contribution of Monasteries and Monasticism,” in *The Rowman & Littlefield Handbook of Christianity in the Middle East*, edited by Mitri Raheb and Mark A. Lamport, 375-386 (Lanham, Md.: Rowman & Littlefield, 2021).

David A. Michelson, “The Hidden Excellence of Lectio Divina: The Ambiguities of Reading as an Elite Marker in East Syrian Monasticism of the Sixth and Seventh Centuries,” in *Virtuosos of Faith: Monks, Nuns, Canons, and Friars as Elites of Medieval Culture*, edited by Gert Melville and James D. Mixson, 285-302. (Zurich: LIT Verlag, 2020).

Petre Guran and David A. Michelson, “Introduction: Dynamics of Faith and Community around the Mediterranean,” in *Faith and Community around the Mediterranean: In Honor of Peter R. L. Brown*, edited by Petre Guran and David A. Michelson, 11-18, *Études Byzantines et Post Byzantines*, new series, vol. I (VIII) (Bucharest: Académie roumaine; Heidelberg: Herlo Verlag UG, 2019 [2020]). <http://hdl.handle.net/1803/16324>

## Peer-Reviewed Book Chapters continued

- David A. Michelson, “‘Salutary Vertigo’: Peter R.L. Brown’s Impact on the Historiography of Christianity,” in *Faith and Community around the Mediterranean: In Honor of Peter R. L. Brown*, edited by Petre Guran and David A. Michelson, 45-70, *Études Byzantines et Post Byzantines*, new series, vol. I (VIII) (Bucharest: Académie roumaine; Heidelberg: Herlo Verlag UG, 2019 [2020]).
- David A. Michelson and Ian Mladjov, “Diachronic Maps of Syriac Cultures and their Geographic Contexts,” in *The Syriac World*, edited by Daniel King, xxvii-xxxiii, and maps 1-14 (New York: Routledge, 2019). <http://hdl.handle.net/1803/16426>
- David A. Michelson and Will Potter, “Index of Maps,” in *The Syriac World*, edited by Daniel King, 824-834 (New York: Routledge, 2019).
- Daniel King and David A. Michelson, “Online Resources for the Study of the Syriac World,” in *The Syriac World*, edited by Daniel King, 814-823 (New York: Routledge, 2019).
- David A. Michelson, “Syriaca.org as a Test Case for Digitally Re-Sorting the Ancient World,” in Paul Dilley, Claire Clivaz, David Hamidovic, eds., *Ancient Worlds in Digital Culture*, Digital Biblical Studies, Vol. 1), 59-85. Leiden: Brill, 2016.  
[http://booksandjournals.brillonline.com/content/books/b9789004325234\\_005](http://booksandjournals.brillonline.com/content/books/b9789004325234_005)
- David A. Michelson, “Philoxenos of Mabbug: A Cappadocian Theologian on the Banks of the Euphrates?” in J. Kreiner and H. Reimitz, *Motions of Late Antiquity: Religion, Politics, and Society from Constantine to Charlemagne*, 151-174. Turnhout: Brepols, 2016.  
<http://www.brepolsonline.net/doi/abs/10.1484/M.CELAMA-EB.5.108243>
- David A. Michelson, “Philoxenos of Mabbug and the Simplicity of Evagrius Gnosis: Competing Uses of Evagrius in Early Sixth-Century Polemical Theology,” in Robin Darling Young and Joel Kalvesmaki, eds., *Evagrius and His Legacy*, 175-205. South Bend: University of Notre Dame Press, 2016. <http://undpress.nd.edu/books/P03217>
- David A. Michelson, “‘It is not the custom of our Syriac language...’: Reconsidering the Role of Translation in the Polemics of Philoxenos of Mabbug,” in David Brakke, Deborah Deliyannis, and Edward Watts, eds. *Shifting Cultural Frontiers in Late Antiquity*, 7-22. Burlington, Vt.: Ashgate, 2012.

## Festschrift Chapter

- David A. Michelson, “‘Though He cannot be eaten, we consume Him’: Appeals to Liturgical Practice in the Christological Polemic of Philoxenos of Mabbug,” in *Malphono w-Rabo d-Malphone: Studies in Honor of Sebastian P. Brock*, ed. George A. Kiraz, 439-476. Piscataway, N.J.: Press, 2008. <https://www.gorgiaspress.com/malphono-w-rabo-d-malphone>

## Peer-Reviewed Published Conference Proceedings

- Nathan P. Gibson and David A. Michelson, “Modeling a Body of Literature in TEI: *The New Handbook of Syriac Literature/Bibliotheca Hagiographica Syriaca Electronica*,” Conference Poster Presentation presented at the TEI Conference and Members’ Meeting 2016, Vienna, Austria, September 29, 2016. <http://tei2016.acdh.oeaw.ac.at/poster-gallery>
- Nathan P. Gibson, Winona Salesky, and David A. Michelson, “Encoding Western and Non-Western Names for Ancient Syriac Authors,” in *Proceedings of the Symposium on Cultural Heritage Markup*. Balisage Series on Markup Technologies, vol. 16 (2015), n.p.  
doi:10.4242/BalisageVol16.Gibson01  
<http://www.balisage.net/Proceedings/vol16/html/Gibson01/BalisageVol16-Gibson01.html>

## Published Conference Proceedings

David A. Michelson and Daniel Schwartz, "Syriaca.org: New Digital Tools for the Study of the Medieval Middle East," in *Исторический Опыт Мировых Цивилизаций И Россия: Материалы IV Международной Научно-Практической Конференции 13 Ноября 2015 Г.* [*Historical Research in World and Russian Civilizations: Papers of the IV International Conference of Scholars and Practitioners 13 November 2015*], edited by I. K. Lapshina and O. V. Zakharova, 19–23. Vladimir: Vladimir State University, 2016.

## Encyclopedia Articles

David A. Michelson, "Philoxenos of Mabbug," in *The Encyclopedia of Ancient History*, ed. Roger S. Bagnall et al., n.p. Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell, 2012.

David A. Michelson, "Philoxenos of Mabbug," in *The Gorgias Encyclopedic Dictionary of the Syriac Heritage*, eds. Sebastian Brock, George A. Kiraz, Lucas Van Rompay, and Aaron Butts, 335-336. Piscataway, N.J.: Gorgias Press, 2011.

## Book Reviews

David A. Michelson, Review of Andrew Radde-Gallwitz, *Basil of Caesarea: A Guide to His Life and Doctrine* in *Theological Studies* 74 (2013), 763.

David A. Michelson, Review of Colin Morris, *The Sepulchre of Christ and the Medieval West: From the Beginning to 1600* in *ALA Choice* (April 2006): n.p.

David A. Michelson, Review of Sylvia Schein, *Gateway to the Heavenly City: Crusader Jerusalem and the Catholic West (1099-1187)* in *ALA Choice* (October 2005): n.p.

David A. Michelson, Review of Peter Garnsey and Caroline Humfress, *The Evolution of the Late Antique World* in *Fides et Historia*, 35, no. 1 (Winter/Spring 2003): 130-31.

David A. Michelson, Review of Judith Herrin, *Women in Purple: Rulers of Medieval Byzantium* in *Fides et Historia* 35, no. 1 (Winter/Spring 2003): 131-32.

## Popular Publications

David A. Michelson, "Read This Book: Saint Isaac of Nineveh, *On Ascetical Life*," blog post for VDS Voices Blog, October 12, 2014.

<https://my.vanderbilt.edu/vanderbiltdivinity/2014/10/read-this-book-october-2014-2/>

David A. Michelson, "Charlemagne's Furniture: Whatever Happened to the Holy Roman Empire?" *Christian History* 108 (2014): 36-38.

<https://www.christianhistoryinstitute.org/magazine/article/charlemagnes-furniture/>

David A. Michelson, "The Thousand Lives of Charlemagne: How Medieval Poets Turned a Border Skirmish into a Foundational Medieval Legend," *Christian History* 108 (2014): 39.

<https://www.christianhistoryinstitute.org/magazine/article/thousand-lives-of-charlemagne/>

Karen Smith-Yoshimura and David A. Michelson, "Irreconcilable Differences? Name Authority Control & Humanities Scholarship," joint blog post for OCLC Research Blog, March 27, 2013. <http://hangingtogether.org/?p=2621>



## Exhibits

- Charlotte Lew, Anna Michelson, Joel Michelson, Paul Michelson, and David A. Michelson curators, "The Fall of Communism in Romania in 1989: Gleaning from the Trash Heap of History," a physical exhibit hosted by The Divinity Library, Vanderbilt University, 2019-2021.
- Charlotte Lew, Stephanie Fulbright, Julia Liden, and David A. Michelson, curators, "Syriac: Preserving an Endangered World Culture," a physical exhibit and online gallery hosted by The Divinity Library, Vanderbilt University, 2016-2017 and by the Vanderbilt Fine Arts Gallery, Vanderbilt University, 2018. <http://gallery.library.vanderbilt.edu/exhibits/syriaca>
- Jessica Lacher-Feldman, David A. Michelson, and Paul E. Michelson curators, "The Fall of the Iron Curtain: Reflections on the Romanian 1989," a physical exhibit hosted by Gorgias Library, University of Alabama, 2009-2010.

## Grant Funded Research (PI or Sub-PI)

- \$10,000 Mellon Faculty Fellow in Digital Humanities, Digital Humanities Center, Vanderbilt University, 2019-2020.
- Collaborator on "Digital Cultural Heritage Research Cluster", \$200,000 Trans-Institutional Program grant, Office of the Provost, Vanderbilt University, 2018-2020. PIs: Lynn Ramey and Tracy Miller.
- Collaborator on "Archaeology of Diversity and Adaptation at a Mediterranean Port," Discovery Grant Program, Office of the Provost, Vanderbilt University, 2018-2020. PI: Joseph Rife.
- \$6000 Research Scholar Grant, Vanderbilt University for the preparation of Petre Guran and David A. Michelson, eds. *Faith and Community around the Mediterranean. In Honor of Peter R. L. Brown*, 2018
- \$18,000 "A Preliminary Syriac, Aramaic and Arabic Lexical and Toponymical Survey of Beth Qatraye (Qatar National Research Fund Project number: NPRP9-002-6-001)," University of Qatar, 2016-2020. PI: Haya Al Thani.
- \$25,618 Research Scholar Grant, Vanderbilt University, 12-month project, "The Library of Eden: A History of Syriac Monastic Readers," 2016-2017.
- \$5,000 Provost's Research Studio, Professional Development Grant, Vanderbilt University, 2016-2017.
- \$7200 (in student support) plus 196 hours of staff time from the Vanderbilt Libraries to fund a Library Dean's Fellowship for a graduate student to work on Syriaca.org under my direction. Faculty Mentor: David Michelson. Fellow: Alex Ayriss. Library Mentors: Suellen Stringer-Hye, Clifford Anderson, Chris Benda. 4-month project, 2016.
- \$118,979 from the National Endowment for the Humanities, "Syriaca.org: Advanced Reference Resources for Middle Eastern History (Grant number: PW-228209-15)" PI: Daniel L. Schwartz (Texas A&M University). Subaward: David Michelson. Other investigators: Nathan Gibson (Vanderbilt University, Postdoc), Jeanne-Nicole Mellon Saint-Laurent (Marquette University), part-time staff. 36-month project, 2014-2017.
- \$249,771 from the National Endowment for the Humanities, "*The Syriac Reference Portal: New Access to Sources for the History of the Middle East* (Grant number: PW-51161-12)" PI: David Michelson. Other investigators: Daniel L. Schwartz (Texas A&M University), Jeanne-Nicole Mellon Saint-Laurent (Marquette University), part-time staff. 48-month project, 2012-2016.

## **Grant Funded Research continued**

\$248,742 from the International Balzan Prize Foundation, “Figures in a Landscape: The Geography and Hagiography of Syriac Christianity.” Subaward passed through Princeton University. Prime Award PI: Peter Brown. Subaward PI: David Michelson. Other investigators: Jeanne-Nicole Mellon Saint-Laurent (Marquette University), George Kiraz (Beth Mardutho Institute), part-time staff. 48-month project, 2012-2016.

\$4424 as a faculty member for the “XQuery Summer Institute: Advancing XML-Based Scholarship from Representation to Discovery (Grant number: HT-50080-13)” *I was included as a core faculty member on this Institutes for Advanced Topics in the Digital Humanities Grant made to Vanderbilt from the National Endowment for the Humanities’ Office of Digital Humanities in 2013. The principal investigator was Dr. Clifford Anderson, Vanderbilt University. My duties included consultation on the curriculum, serving on the steering committee, and teaching some sessions of the institute.*

\$2500 from the Southeastern Conference Faculty Travel Grant Program, Vanderbilt University, Faculty Travel Award, 2013. *Travel grant (shared with Robin Jensen and Betsey Robinson) for collaborative work with scholars of Late Antiquity at other SEC Institutions.*

\$133,848 from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, “New Tools and Standards for the Study of Syriac Manuscripts,” Subaward of a Mellon Foundation Award through Princeton University. Prime Award PI: Peter Brown. Subaward PI: David Michelson. Other investigators: George Kiraz (Beth Mardutho Institute), Robert Ayding (University of Alabama), part-time staff. 30-month project, 2010-2012.

\$5000 from the Office of Research, University of Alabama, Research Grants Committee Award, 2011. *Grant to complete research on a monograph on Philoxenos of Mabbug.*

\$5000 (in equipment) from the College of Arts & Sciences, University of Alabama, Tablet Computing Initiative, 2011. *Grant of equipment to teach pilot a class where all students used a tablet computer for in-class collaboration.*

## **Grant Funded Research (Awarded but Declined)**

\$25,000 Dietrich Reinhart OSB Fellowship in Eastern Christian Manuscript Studies, Hill Museum and Manuscript Library, St. John’s University, Collegeville, MN, 2016.

## **Grant Funded Research (Consultant)**

Sinai Manuscripts Digital Library. I serve as a technical advisor to this project at UCLA.

<https://sinaimanuscripts.library.ucla.edu/>

Southeastern Conference Faculty Travel Grant, Texas A&M University awarded Daniel L. Schwartz a \$1700 Faculty Travel Award in 2020. *This award was made to promote collaboration between faculty members in the Southeastern Conference. I served as the host institution faculty member in the application for this grant. The award funded travel for Prof. Schwartz to come to Vanderbilt for collaborative grant writing.*

“Faith and Community around the Mediterranean (300-1500): A Conference Honoring the Work of Peter R.L. Brown.” *I served as the co-organizer of a conference funded with the institutional and financial support of New Europe College’s Institute for Advanced Studies, Bucharest, Romania. The principal investigator was Petre Guran (New Europe College) who secured funding and had the idea to hold the conference. The conference was held in March, 2016 in Bucharest and Iasi, Romania.*



## Grant Funded Research (Consultant) continued

“BAM: Big Ancient Mediterranean.” *I was included as a consultant on this Digital Humanities Start-Up Grant (CFDA Number: 45.169) funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities’ Office of Digital Humanities in September, 2015. The principal investigators are Profs. Sarah Bond and Paul Dilley, University of Iowa.*

“The Syriac Heritage Project (<http://syriacheritage.cua.edu/>).” *I serve as a technical advisor to this project at the Catholic University of America. The principal investigator is prof. Robin Darling Young. The Syriac Heritage project seeks to establish a digital repository for the preservation and dissemination of the cultural record of Christian Syriac Communities with a particular focus on collecting oral history materials from contemporary diaspora communities.*

“Deep Mapping the Reducción: Building a Platform for Spatial Humanities Collaboration on the General Resettlement of Indians (Grant number: HD-229071-15).” *I was included as a consultant on this Digital Humanities Start-Up Grant funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities’ Office of Digital Humanities in March, 2014. The principal investigators are Prof. Steven Wernke, Vanderbilt University and Prof. Jeremy Mumford, Brown University. My involvement in the project is described above under the research on LOGAR: Linked Open Gazetteer of the Andean Region.*

Southeastern Conference Faculty Travel Grant, Texas A&M University awarded Daniel L. Schwartz a \$2500 Faculty Travel Award in 2014. *This award was made to promote collaboration between faculty members in the Southeastern Conference. I served as the host institution faculty member in the application for this grant. The award funded travel for Prof. Schwartz to come to Vanderbilt during which time we wrote a successful grant application to the National Endowment for the Humanities.*

## Research Languages

**Ancient & Medieval:** Armenian, Greek, Latin, & Syriac

**Modern:** French, German, & Romanian

**Artificial:** XPath, XSLT, Xquery, HTML, Markdown, XML (TEI, MADS, EAC)

## Teaching Experience

### Vanderbilt University (2012-present)

Desert Spirituality in Early Christianity/The History of Monasticism\*

Formation of Christian Traditions

Graduate Directed Readings: Syriac Scribes and Manuscripts\*

History of Early Christian Poetry\*

History of Global Christianities I

History of Syriac Christianity\*

Introduction to Classical Syriac

Introduction to Mediterranean Studies

Master of Divinity Degree Seminar and Project

Religion, Society, and Culture in the Later Roman Empire/Seminar in Late Antiquity\*

Topics in the Digital Humanities for Historians and Scholars of Religion\*

\*indicates new courses introduced at Vanderbilt

## Teaching Experience (continued)

### University of Alabama (Assistant Professor, 2008-2012)

Byzantine History\*

Graduate Directed Readings: Syriac Studies\*

Graduate Directed Readings: Council of Chalcedon\*

History of Monasticism (Undergraduate Research Seminar)\*

Honors Thesis in History

Honors Western Civilization to 1648

Introduction to Digital Humanities\*

Introduction to Syriac Language and Literature\*

Roman History

Undergraduate Independent Study: Computer Based Honors Research

Undergraduate Independent Study: Nicaea to Chalcedon\*

Undergraduate Independent Study: Syriac Mystics and the Desert Fathers\*

Undergraduate Independent Study: Syriac Grammar\*

Undergraduate Independent Study: Syriac Manuscript Cataloguing\*

Western Civilization to 1648

\*indicates new courses introduced at University of Alabama

### Rutgers University (Part-Time Lecturer, Spring 2008)

The Roman World in Late Antiquity

### Villanova University (Visiting Assistant Professor, Fall 2007)

Augustine and Culture Seminar

### Princeton University (Assistant in Instruction, 2005-2006)

The New Testament and Christian Origins

Europe from Antiquity to 1700

### Trinity College, Deerfield, Ill. (Teaching Assistant, Fall 2000)

World Civilizations I

### Hillsdale College (Language Lab Peer Mentor, 1996-1997)

Beginning French I & II

## Research Supervision

### Vanderbilt University

#### Postdoctoral Scholars

Michelle P. Taylor (Ph.D., University of Iowa): *The Srophé Digital Cultural Heritage App* (2018-2019). Dr. Taylor is now a Continuing Instructor of English at the University of South Florida. <http://english.usf.edu/faculty/mtaylor>

Nathan P. Gibson (Ph.D., Catholic University of America): *New Handbook of Syriac Literature* (2015-2017). Supervised remotely while research was conducted at Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität, Munich, Germany. Dr. Gibson is now Wissenschaftlicher Mitarbeiter at Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität. [https://www.naher-osten.uni-muenchen.de/personen/wiss\\_ma/gibson/index.html](https://www.naher-osten.uni-muenchen.de/personen/wiss_ma/gibson/index.html)

Thomas A. Carlson (Ph.D., Princeton University): *The Syriac Gazetteer* (2012-2014).

Supervised remotely while research was conducted at Princeton University. Dr. Carlson

is now Associate Professor of Middle Eastern History at Oklahoma State University.  
<https://history.okstate.edu/people/faculty/33-carlson-thomas-a>

#### **Ph.D. Dissertation Committees**

Chun Luen Wu, "Monster Paradox: *Wirkungsgeschichte* of Behemoth and Leviathan in Light Of Monster Theory," reader, in progress 2022

Ethan Laster, "The Material Formation of Mystical Sensibilities in Late Antique East Syriac Christianity," external reader for Saint Louis University, in progress 2022

Jennifer Sylvan Alexander, "Matthew's Parable of the Eunuchs", defended May 14, 2021, reader

Peter Miller, "Usual Labors and the Wealth of Philosophy: Syriac Monastic Education in the Fourth through Ninth Centuries", prospectus defended November 11, 2020, external reader for the University of Iowa

Susannah Larry, "Lament Beyond Blame: Consequences of Women's Poetry in Lamentations 1-2," defended February 28, 2020, reader

Douglas Clark, "A Solid Black Hyphen: Race, Religion, Identity, and the Black Power Activism of Gayraud S. Wilmore," defended September 20, 2019

Mark Ellison, "Visualizing Christian Marriage in the Roman World," defended February 10, 2017, co-first reader

Jennifer Awes Freeman, "Erasing God: Carolingians, Controversy, and the Ashburnham Pentateuch", defended February 29, 2016, co-first reader

Bradley Daugherty, "The Bishops of North Africa: Rethinking Practice and Belief in Late Antiquity," defended June 30, 2015, reader

#### **Ph.D. Dissertation Committees continued**

Leonidas Kotsiris, "Even as We are One: A Study on the Question of Will in Trinitarian Theology until 381," defended March 13, 2013, reader

#### **Ph.D. Qualifying Exam Committees**

Jonathan Baddley, May 20, 2021

Peter Miller, May 9, 2019 (external examiner for the University of Iowa)

Mohammad Meerzai, August 31, 2018

Susannah Larry, November 3, 2016

Douglas Clark, June 3, 2016

Mark Ellison, August 21, 2015

Jennifer Sylvan Alexander, December 18, 2013

Jennifer Awes Freeman, March 15, 2013

#### **M.A. Thesis Committees**

Lindsay Ruth, "'Skirting' Society: How Women in Late Antique Persia Used Religious Pluralism to Subvert Gender Boundaries," 2021, first reader

Justin Arnwine, "'Become All Eye': Optical Imagery in Eastern Christianity and the Theological Anthropology of Pseudo-Macarius," 2015, first reader

Julia Nations-Quiroz, "The Shepherd of Sheep, the Shepherd of Souls: Funereal Iconography of the Good Shepherd and Christianization of Hermes Psychopompos," 2015, second reader

### **M.T.S. Thesis Committees**

William L. Potter, "Narsai's Homily on Job: A Digital Edition and Translation with Introduction," 2019, first reader

Niall Alvarado, "Is the Serpent in the Garden Evil? A Re-examination of the Evidence," 2018, second reader

Julia Liden, "Eikon: A Triple Encounter," 2018, first reader and advisor for exhibit

Danielle Oxnam, "Creating our World: Theological Storytelling as a Democratizing Agent in Postmodernity," 2018, second reader.

Peter Miller, "Evagrius of Pontus and the Late Antique Demon: 'Alone Among the Thoughts,'" 2015, first reader

Will Hunter, "Discernment of Spirits according to John Cassian," 2014, second reader

## **University of Alabama**

### **M.A. Examination Committee**

Timothy LaBarbera, 2012, first reader

## **University Service**

### **Vanderbilt University**

#### **Board of Trust**

Presentation to the Board's Academic and Student Affairs Committee, November 7, 2019

Presentation to the Board's Strategic Session on Faculty Growth and Development, February 1, 2019

Presentation to the Board's Strategic Session on Digital Humanities, November 3, 2017

### **College of Arts and Science**

#### **Vanderbilt Digital Humanities Center**

Faculty Advisory Committee, 2018-2021

#### **Department of Classical and Mediterranean Studies**

Lecture Committee, 2019-2021

#### **Department of Classical and Mediterranean Studies**

Steering Committee, 2016-2019

## **Divinity School**

Faculty Public Health Ambassador, 2021

Divinity Curriculum Concentrations

MANES: Mediterranean and Near Eastern Studies, convener, 2018-2021

Global Christianities and Inter-Religious Encounter, steering committee member, 2018-2021

## **Divinity School continued**

Chair, Faculty *Ad Hoc* Review Committee for Reappointment, 2020  
Member, Faculty *Ad Hoc* Review Committee for Promotion, 2019  
Faculty Committee on Personnel & Policy, 2017-2019  
Admissions Committee, 2014-2015, 2017-2018  
Steering Committee, New Paradigms in Teaching for Ministry Conference, 2014-2015  
Student Orientation Presenter, 2013-2015  
Hebrew Bible Dual Search Committee, 2013-2014  
Honor Council, 2020-2021  
Faculty Marshall, Installation of Dean Emilie Townes, August 23, 2013  
Academic Programs Committee, 2012-2014  
    ATS Self-Study Subcommittee 2013-2014  
    D.Min. Subcommittee 2013-2014

## **Graduate Department of Religion**

Area Director for Historical Studies on the Graduate Policy and Admissions Committee, 2018-2019

## **Office of the Chancellor**

Humanities Advisory Committee, 2015-2016

## **Office of the Provost**

Vanderbilt University Research Council, 2016-2021  
    Vanderbilt Electronic Research Administration Working Group, 2019-2021  
Research IT Faculty Advisory Committee, 2018-2021  
    Digital Storage Solutions Sub-Committee Chair, 2018-2019  
Research Scholar Grant Review Subcommittee, 2018  
Data Science Visions Trans-Institutional Programs Working Group, 2017-2018  
Copyright Task Force, 2014-2015

## **Robert Penn Warren Center for the Humanities**

Co-Coordinator with Robin Jensen and Mark Ellison, Warren Center Seminar, Religion and Culture in Late Antiquity, 2014-2015  
Faculty Presenter, Mellon Institute for Early-Career Scholars in the Digital and Public Humanities, May 14, 2014  
Co-organized a guest lecture with the Warren Center Seminar on Geographic Imaginations and the Spatial Humanities: Who (or What) is the 21st Century Audience for a Historical Gazetteer? by Dr. Thomas Elliott, NYU, March 21, 2014

## **University Libraries**

Faculty Advisor to Staff Search Committee, 2020  
Faculty Mentor, Library Dean's Fellows Project, "Linked Open Data for the Medieval Middle East," Spring 2016  
Informal Presentations to Digital Projects Committee, Fall 2015.  
XQuery Summer Institute at Vanderbilt University, Project Faculty, 2014 (funded by the NEH Office of Digital Humanities), <http://xqueryinstitute.org/>

## **University Libraries continued**

Workshop on Late Antique Resources in VU Libraries, with Ramona Romero, Chris Benda, and Eileen Crawford, November 5, 2013

Assisted with collection development for late antiquity and preparation of a research guide for our holdings: <http://researchguides.library.vanderbilt.edu/lateantiquity>

## **Vanderbilt Institute for Digital Learning**

Faculty Advisory Council, 2013-2015

## **University of Alabama**

Alabama Digital Humanities Center, Postdoctoral Search Committee Chair, 2011

Alabama Digital Humanities Center, Faculty advisory member, 2010-2012

History Department, Development Committee, 2010-2012

History Department, Technology Committee, 2010-2012

History Department, Textbook Selection Committee, 2008-2012

History Department, Graduate Committee, 2008-2012

History Department, Chinese History Search Committee, 2009-2010

History Department, Bankhead Advisory Committee, 2008-2010

Graduate School, Graduate Parent Support Group Advisory Board, 2009-2012

University Libraries, Book Collecting Contest Judge, 2009, 2010

## **Princeton University**

Center for the Study of Religion Executive Committee, 2006-2008

Graduate History Association Officer Committee, 2003-2004

## **Professional Service**

Co-Organizer with Dawn Childress and Jeanne-Nicole Mellon Saint-Laurent, “Working Group for Linked Manuscript Descriptions,” at Linked Pasts VII Symposium, Ghent University Centre for Digital Humanities and CLARIAH Flanders Open Humanities Service Infrastructure Consortium, December 15-16, 2021

Organized an online guest lecture: “Engaging Ancient Christianity's Global Identity” by Prof. Vince Bantu, Fuller Seminary as part of the course, DIV 6711 “History of Syriac Christianity”, Vanderbilt University, March 30, 2021

Organized an online guest lecture: “Jovian Invocation during the Roman Empire: A Study using Network Analysis” by Prof. Zehavi Husser, Biola University as part of the programming of the Vanderbilt Center for Digital Humanities, Vanderbilt University, March 11, 2021

Advisor to the organizing committee for the ReLACS (Regional Late Antiquity Consortium Southeast) online seminar. “Suspicion, Projection, Conviction: Making Enemies in Early Christianity”, presented by Ellen Muehlberger, University of Missouri, November 2, 2020

Panel Moderator, “Syriac Studies: New Conversations,” ReLACS 2018 (Regional Late Antiquity Consortium Southeast), University of Tennessee, Knoxville, October 25, 2018

Organized a guest lecture by Jelena Bogdanović, Iowa State University, “The Canopy and the Byzantine Church,” April 14, 2018



## Professional Service continued

- Chair of steering committee for 2017 meeting of ReLACS (Regional Late Antiquity Consortium Southeast), held at Vanderbilt University, October 19-20, 2017
- Steering Committee member, Syriac Literature and Interpretations of Sacred Text Program Unit, Society of Biblical Literature, 2015-2016
- Planning committee member, Mapping Ancient Lives & Social Networks: A Digital Workshop, Marquette University, Milwaukee, May 23, 2017
- Co-organizer of conference, Faith and Community around the Mediterranean (300-1500): A Conference Honoring the Work of Peter R.L. Brown, New Europe College, Bucharest, Romania, March 2016
- Panel Organizer, Computer Assisted Research in Syriac Studies, Symposium Syriacum XII, Pontificio Istituto Orientale, Rome, Italy, August 20, 2016
- Panel Organizer, Digital Humanities and the Study of Patristics, XVII International Conference on Patristic Studies, Oxford University, August 11, 2015
- Panel Organizer, Interpreting Texts, Producing and Performing Interpretations, Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting, Atlanta, Ga., November 22, 2015
- Panel Organizer, Syriac Studies and Digital Research, Seventh North American Syriac Symposium, Catholic University of America, June 24, 2015
- Co-organized a guest lecture: "Zooniverse," by Prof. John Wallin, Middle Tennessee State University as part of the Warren Center Digital Humanities Seminar, Vanderbilt University, April 8, 2015
- Co-organized a guest lecture: Virgins, Mothers, and Martyrs: Women in Early Christian Africa by Kate Cooper, University of Manchester, March 27, 2015
- Symposium Organizer, Hugoye Symposium IV: Syriac and the Digital Humanities, Rutgers University, March 6, 2015
- Panel Organizer, The Digital Humanities and the Study of Christianity in Late Antiquity: Reflections on a Disciplinary Intersection, American Historical Association Annual Meeting, New York, January 2, 2015
- Panel Organizer, Introducing Syriaca.org: New Online Tools for the Study of Syriac Christianity, North American Patristics Society 2014 Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL, May 23, 2014.
- Listserv Moderator, [Late-Antiquity-Southeast@list.vanderbilt.edu](mailto:Late-Antiquity-Southeast@list.vanderbilt.edu), a regional e-mail list to connect scholars of late antiquity in the Southeastern US, 2014-present
- Co-organized a guest lecture: Imagine the World is a Circle: Dorotheus of Gaza on God, Neighbor and Self by Prof. Roberta Bondi, *emerita* Emory University, March 12, 2014.
- Session Chair, Maps and Mapping: Cities and Regions, Medieval Academy of America 2013 Annual Meeting, Knoxville, Tenn., April 5, 2013.
- Panel organizer, Reading and Community in Syriac Christianity, American Society of Church History, New Orleans, January 5, 2013.
- XML workshop participant, Alabama Digital Humanities Initiative Group, University Libraries, University of Alabama, September 19, 2011
- Guest Presenter, Research as a Way of Life, Emerging Scholars Program, College of Arts & Sciences, University of Alabama, September 16, 2011
- Guest Presenter, Digital Humanities at the University of Alabama, University Libraries Leadership Board, University of Alabama, September 15, 2011

## Professional Service continued

- Presenter, iPads in a Digital Humanities classroom, at Teaching, Research, and the iPad in the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Alabama, September 13, 2011
- Session Moderator, Religion, Politics and Society. From Constantine to Charlemagne: A Conference in Honor of Peter Brown, Princeton University, May 5-7, 2011
- Organized Learner-Centered Workshop: Using the Hoole Coin Collection (guest presenter: Craig Caldwell, University of Georgia), April 8, 2011
- Organized Guest Presentation, Ngram Viewer, Will Brockman (Google, Inc.), Alabama Digital Humanities Center, April 7, 2011
- Organized Guest Lecture, Beyond Archives and Illustrations: New Directions in Digital History, Anne Sarah Rubin (The University of Maryland, Baltimore County), Alabama Digital Humanities Center, March 23, 2011
- Organized Guest Presentation, Authority in Digital Scholarship, Will Hanley (Florida State University), Alabama Digital Humanities Center, March 10, 2011
- Panel Organizer and Moderator, Revolutions of 2011: Why the History of the Middle East Matters, a round table with Juan Cole, University of Michigan, Richard L. Chambers, University of Chicago (emeritus) and Will Hanley, Florida State University, held at the University of Alabama, March 10, 2011
- Organized Guest Presentation, [Papyri.info](#) and [Pleiades](#), Tom Elliott (Institute for the Study of the Ancient World, New York University), Alabama Digital Humanities Center, March 3, 2011
- Organized Guest Presentation, [Networking Names](#) and [VIAF: Virtual International Authority File](#), Karen Smith-Yoshimura (Program Officer, [OCLC](#) Research), Alabama Digital Humanities Center, February 24, 2011
- Organized Guest Panel Discussion, Trends in the Digital Humanities with Jennifer Howard, Jeff Young, Marc Perry (The Chronicle of Higher Education), Alabama Digital Humanities Center, February 3, 2011
- Beta Tester, Campus-wide pilots for Xythos Data Collaboration tool, University of Alabama, 2009-2010
- Panel Chair, Syriac Literature and Interpretations of Sacred Text, Society of Biblical Literature, Atlanta, Ga., November 20, 2010
- Exhibit Curator, "The Fall of the Iron Curtain: The Romanian 1989." Exhibit of items from personal collection gathered during the events of 1989 in Romania. (Curated with Paul Michelson, Margaret Peacock, Jessica Lacher-Feldman, and Kimberly Tucker.) Gorgas Library, University of Alabama, October-December, 2009
- Panelist, Graduate Parent Support Group Lunch Panel, How to Survive Graduate School and Be a Successful Parent, University of Alabama, October 22, 2009
- Symposium Co-organizer: Reconsidering Philoxenos of Mabbug, a symposium hosted by Center of Theological Inquiry and Princeton University, Princeton, NJ, May 3, 2008
- Panel Organizer: Scripture, Liturgy, & Catechesis: Teaching Knowledge of the Divine in Syriac Christianity, Villanova University 32nd International PMR Conference, Villanova, Pa., October 19, 2007
- Roundtable Co-organizer: Religion and the Media, Princeton University, Princeton, N.J., October, 16, 2007

### **Professional Service continued**

Conference Organizing Committee Chair: Dorushe 2nd Annual Graduate Student Conference on Syriac Studies, Princeton University, Princeton, N.J., April 14-15, 2007

Conference Organizing Committee Member: The Good Samaritan in the Global Age: Migration, Religion, and the World Economy, Princeton University, Princeton, N.J., March 29 – 30, 2007

Conference Founding Committee Member: Dorushe Conference on Syriac Pedagogy, Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C., February 3-5, 2006

Conference Organizing Committee Member: Priesthoods in the Ancient World, Oxford-Princeton graduate workshop, New College, Oxford, January 11-13, 2005

Beta Tester, Implementation of Unicode support for Syriac in Mellel Word Processing Software, 2004-2005

Panelist, Christian Students and the History Graduate School Experience, Conference on Faith and History Student Research Conference, Huntington College, Huntington, In., October 9, 2002

### **Professional Service: Reviewer**

L'Agence Nationale de la Recherche (France)

*Hugoye: Journal of Syriac Studies*

National Endowment for the Humanities

Society of Biblical Literature Program Unit