

David Allen Michelson

Vanderbilt University
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Employment:

Vanderbilt University (2012-present)

Assistant Professor of the History of Christianity, Divinity School
Assistant Professor, Graduate Department of Religion
Affiliate Assistant Professor, Department of Classical Studies
Affiliate Assistant Professor, Program in Islamic Studies

University of Alabama (2008-2012)

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

Princeton University (2006-2008)

Acting Associate Director, Center for the Study of Religion

Degree Programs:

Princeton University, Princeton, N.J.

Ph.D., History (Program in the Ancient World), awarded November 10, 2007

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

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

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

Fields: Late Antiquity, Byzantium, High Medieval Europe

Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, Deerfield, Ill.

M.A., Church History, *Summa Cum Laude*, 2001

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 (Ohio State)

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

Hillsdale College, Hillsdale, Mich.

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

Further Education:

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

Further Education Continued:

American School of Classical Studies at Athens, Athens, Greece. 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, Strasbourg, France, Diplôme Approfondi de Langue Française (French Language Diploma, Equivalent to TOEFL for English), 1998

Universitatea Babeș-Bolyai, Cluj-Napoca, Romania, Diploma Cursului de Vara “Civilizația Românească” (Summer Course Diploma in Romanian Civilization), 1997

Research Languages:

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

Modern: French, German, & Romanian

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

Publications by Type:

Monograph:

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

<http://global.oup.com/academic/product/the-practical-christology-of-philoxenos-of-mabbug-9780198722960>

Co-Authored Digital Publication:

David A. Michelson and Thomas A. Carlson, eds., *The Syriac Gazetteer (The Syriac Reference Portal*, 2014), <http://syriaca.org/geo>.

Co-Edited Special Issue:

David A. Michelson and Robert A. Kitchen, eds., *Hugoye: Journal of Syriac Studies* 13.1-2, “A Double Issue on Philoxenos of Mabbug” (Winter & Summer 2010).

<http://www.bethmardutho.org/index.php/hugoye/volume-index/83.html>

Peer-Reviewed Article:

“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 Chapters:

“‘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:

“‘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.

Encyclopedia Articles:

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

“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:

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

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

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

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.

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:

“Charlemagne’s Furniture: Whatever Happened to the Holy Roman Empire?” *Christian History* 108 (2014): 36-38. <https://www.christianhistoryinstitute.org/magazine/article/charlemagnes-furniture/>

“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/>

“Irreconcilable Differences? Name Authority Control & Humanities Scholarship,” joint blog post with Karen Smith-Yoshimura (OCLC Research), March 27, 2013 <http://hangingtogether.org/?p=2621>

Selected Grants:

\$249,771 from the National Endowment for the Humanities, “*The Syriac Reference Portal: New Access to Sources for the History of the Middle East*” PI: David Michelson. 36 month project, 2012-2015.

\$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. 36 month project, 2012-2015.

\$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. 15 month project, 2010-2012.

\$5000 from the Robert Penn Warren Center for the Humanities to launch a university-wide seminar on “Religion and Culture in Late Antiquity,” 2014-2015. The seminar drew faculty and graduate students from ten departments (Classics, Graduate Department of Religion, Religious Studies, Divinity, Jewish Studies, Law, French, English, History, and History of Art). Six Vanderbilt faculty and six visiting faculty presented papers or gave lectures sponsored by the seminar, including five papers at a two day symposium held in October 2014.
<https://my.vanderbilt.edu/lateantiquity/>

\$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.*

\$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.*

Served as a grant consultant and institute faculty member for “XQuery Summer Institute: Advancing XML-Based Scholarship from Representation to Discovery” an NEH funded Institutes for Advanced Topics in the Digital Humanities. PI, Clifford Anderson, Vanderbilt University, 2014, award amount \$72,760.

Selected Awards and Fellowships:

“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

Conference Presentations:

“Syriaca.org: Linking Data from the Syriac Heritage,” Hugoye Symposium IV: Syriac and the Digital Humanities, Rutgers University, Piscataway, N.J., March 6, 2015

- “Information Revolutions Past and Present: How Digital Humanities Can and Can’t Transform Scholarship on the History of Christianity in Late Antiquity,” American Historical Association Annual Meeting, New York, January 2, 2015
- “The Syriac Gazetteer (www.syriaca.org/geo): A New Reference Work for the Geographic Environment of Middle Eastern Christianity,” American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, San Diego, Calif., November 24, 2014
- “Using Linked Open Data to Explore Manuscript Collections: A Case Study from Syriaca.org,” Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting, San Diego, Calif., November 23, 2014
- “Syriaca.org as a Model for Collaborative Research on Late Antiquity,” North American Patristics Society 2014 Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL, May 23, 2014
- “Finding Colophons in Syriaca.org: Exploring the TEI Encoding Model,” presented with Justine Arnwine and Anthony Davis, Hugoye Symposium III: Colophons in the Syriac Tradition, Rutgers University, May 16, 2014
- “Reading Syriac Anthologies 400-800: A Survey of the Manuscript Evidence,” Society of Biblical Literature, Baltimore, Md., November 23, 2013
- “Manuscripts and the Making of the Genre of Orthodoxy: An Examination of Syriac Florilegia,” American Society of Church History, New Orleans, January 5, 2013
- “*The Syriac Reference Portal*: Online Tools for the Study of Syriac Literature,” Society of Biblical Literature, Chicago, November 20, 2012
- “*The Syriac Reference Portal*,” Linked Ancient World Data Institute, Institute for the Study of the Ancient World, NYU, May 31-June 2, 2012
- “A Syriac Reference Portal,” Ancient Religion, Modern Technology Workshop, Brown University, February 13-14, 2012
- “*The Syriac Reference Portal* (www.syriac.ua.edu): A New Collaborative Resource for Byzantinists,” 37th Byzantine Studies Conference, DePaul University, Chicago, Ill., October 21-23, 2011
- “*The Syriac Reference Portal*: New Digital Tools for Syriac Studies” 16th International conference on Patristic Studies, Oxford University, August 8-12, 2011
- “*The Syriac Reference Portal*: An Introduction and Call for Collaborators,” Sixth North American Syriac Symposium, Duke University, June 26-29, 2011
- “New Standards and Tools for the Study of Syriac Authors: Preliminary Proposals for Syriac Authority Records in The SBL Handbook of Style,” Society of Biblical Literature, Atlanta, Ga., November 22, 2010
- “Proposals for Syriac Prosopography and Authority Control,” 7th World Syriac Conference, St. Ephrem Ecumenical Research Institute (SEERI), Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam, India, September 8-16, 2010
- “The Philoxenian New Testament and the Hermeneutics of Simplicity.” Society of Biblical Literature, New Orleans, Louisiana, November 21-24, 2009
- “MS BL Add. 17201: ‘Doctoring’ Orthopraxy into Orthodoxy.” 35th Byzantine Studies Conference, Florida State University, Sarasota, Florida, November 5-8, 2009
- “‘It is not the custom of our Syriac language...’: Reconsidering the Role of Translation in the Polemics of Philoxenos of Mabbug,” Shifting Frontiers VIII: Shifting Cultural Frontiers in Late Antiquity, Indiana University, Bloomington, Ind., April 2-5, 2009

Conference Presentations Continued:

- “Practice Leads to Theory: Orthodoxy and Spiritual Struggle in the World of Philoxenos of Mabbug (470-523),” 34th Byzantine Studies Conference, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, New Jersey, October 16–19, 2008
- “Opposition to Chalcedon as a Spiritual Practice in the Polemics of Philoxenos of Mabbug,” Xth Symposium Syriacum, Granada, Spain, September 22-27, 2008
- “Philoxenos of Mabbug: Prospects for Future Research,” at “Reconsidering Philoxenos of Mabbug”, a symposium organized by Center of Theological Inquiry and Princeton University, Princeton, NJ, May 3, 2008
- “Simplicity of Faith: Anti-Theological Polemics against the Council of Chalcedon,” Villanova University 32nd International Patristic, Medieval & Renaissance Conference, Villanova, Pa., October 19, 2007
- “Religious Practice and the Defense of Miaphysite Orthodoxy: Observations on Philoxenos of Mabbug,” Syriac Studies Symposium V, University of Toronto, June 25-27, 2007
- “The Relationship of Pneumatology and Christology in the Polemics of Philoxenos of Mabbug,” Society of Biblical Literature, Washington, D.C., November 18-21, 2006
- “Philoxenos of Mabbug's Vision of Churchmanship, a Context for Christology.” 6th Syriac Conference, SEERI, Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam, India, September 8-16, 2006
- “Philoxenos of Mabbug on Doctrinal Conflict as a Devotional Practice,” 21st International Congress of Byzantine Studies, London, August 21-26, 2006
- “Developing Electronic Databases for Syriac Studies,” Dorushe Conference on Syriac Pedagogy, Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C., February, 3-5, 2006
- “Monastic orthopraxy and orthodoxy in the writings of Philoxenos of Mabbug,” at “Syria in the Ancient World”, Oxford-Princeton graduate workshop, Princeton University, Princeton, N.J., January 12-14, 2006
- “‘Though He Cannot Be Eaten, We Consume Him’: Liturgical and Devotional Contexts for Opposition to Chalcedon at the End of the Fifth Century,” 31st Byzantine Studies Conference, University of Georgia, Athens, Ga., October 28, 2005 (Tousimis Award)
- “Theology and Practice after Chalcedon: Christology and Economy in Miaphysite Episcopal Administration, A.D. 485-518,” Ecclesiastical History Society Postgraduate Conference, The University of Manchester, U.K., February 5, 2005
- “‘If upon Satan are laid the hands of ordination to the priesthood...’ Ἀκρίβεια and Οἰκονομία in Governing the Christian Priesthood in a Time of Crisis,” at “Priesthoods in the Ancient World”, Oxford-Princeton graduate workshop, New College, Oxford, January 11-13, 2005
- “Did Charlemagne Sack Constantinople? Western Charlemagne Legends as Anti-Byzantine Propaganda (c.1000-1204),” 29th Byzantine Studies Conference, Bates College, Maine, October 17, 2003 (Tousimis Award)
- “For sin is more foul than putrefaction itself: Ambivalent Connotations of Stench in Late Antiquity,” at “Purity and Pollution in Ancient Religions,” Oxford-Princeton graduate workshop, New College, Oxford, January 9, 2003
- “*La Perpétuité de la Foi: A Reformation Debate in the République des lettres*,” Conference on Faith and History Student Research Conference, Huntington College, Huntington, In., October 10, 2002

Invited Presentations:

- “The Practical Christology of Philoxenos of Mabbug,” Religion and Culture in Late Antiquity Seminar, Robert Penn Warren Center for the Humanities, Vanderbilt University, December 2, 2014
- “Introduction to Digital Humanities and Syriaca.org” Online Workshop with Students, Gordon College, Mass., March 18, 2014
- “Building Tools for Digital Collaboration: A Case Study from *Syriaca.org*,” Digital Humanities Seminar, Robert Penn Warren Center for the Humanities, Vanderbilt University, December 3, 2013
- “*The Syriac Gazetteer*,” Geographic Imagination and the Spatial Humanities Seminar, Robert Penn Warren Center for the Humanities, Vanderbilt University, November 15, 2013
- “*Syriaca.org: The Syriac Reference Portal*,” Workshop on Cultures of the Late Antique Mediterranean, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, November 1, 2013
- “Scholars’ Contribution to VIAF,” joint presentation with Karen Smith-Yoshimura (OCLC) to the Virtual International Authority File Council, May 2, 2013
- “TEI for Syriac Manuscript Description,” Online Workshop with Students in HIS 494B, Gordon College, Mass., April 2, 2013
- “*Syriaca.org: The Syriac Reference Portal*,” Digital Humanities Seminar, Robert Penn Warren Center for the Humanities, Vanderbilt University, March 19, 2013
- Panel Member, “Syriac Portal, Digital Humanities, and Ancient Texts,” The Edmundite Center for Faith and Culture, St. Michael’s College, Vermont, October 5, 2012
- “Philoxenos of Mabbug and the Simplicity of Evagrius *Gnosis*: Competing Uses of Evagrius in Early Sixth-Century Polemical Theology,” Symposium: “After Evagrius: The Controversial Legacy of Evagrius of Pontus,” *Dumbarton Oaks* (Harvard University), Washington, D.C., April 15–16, 2011
- “The Spiritual Benefits of Being ‘Lost in Translation’, or The Cultural Authority of the Greek New Testament and Greek Theology in the Roman Near East,” Greece and Global Culture Symposium, University of Alabama, April 1, 2011
- “Crowdsourcing Historical Research: Challenges and Advantages of Collaborative Digital Research,” European History Workshop, University of Alabama, November 19, 2010
- “Philoxenos and the Attractive Simplicity of Evagrius,” Byzantine Studies Workshop: The Work and Legacy of Evagrius of Pontus, University of Notre Dame, May 25-26, 2010
- “Putting Action into Words: The Formation of Christian Orthodoxy in Late Antiquity Viewed from Syriac Sources,” Medieval and Renaissance Studies Program, Eastern Carolina University, March 25, 2010
- “The End of Christianity in Iraq?” Center for Politics and Religion, Union University, Jackson, Tennessee, April 23, 2009
- “Philoxenos of Mabbug and the Practice of Orthodoxy: A Syriac Case Study for the Place of Praxis in the Chalcedonian Christological Controversies,” Workshop on Late Antiquity and Byzantium, University of Chicago, May 8, 2008
- “Biblical Commentary and Translation in the Wake of Chalcedon: Philoxenos of Mabbug and the Revision of the Syriac New Testament.” Patristics Seminar, Faculty of Theology, Oxford University, May 25, 2005.

Teaching Experience:

Vanderbilt University (Assistant Professor, 2012-present):

- “Formation of Christian Traditions”
- “Religion, Society, and Culture in the Later Roman Empire”
- “Desert Spirituality in Early Christianity”
- “Topics in the Digital Humanities for Historians and Scholars of Religion”
- “History of Syriac Christianity”

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”

Rutgers University (Part-Time Lecturer, 2008)

- “The Roman World in Late Antiquity”

Villanova University (Visiting Assistant Professor, 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, 2000)

- “World Civilizations I”

Hillsdale College (Language Lab Instructor, 1996-1997)

- “Beginning French I & II”

Graduate Teaching:

Vanderbilt University:

Ph.D. Dissertation Committees:

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

Ph.D. Qualifying Exam Committees:

Jennifer Sylvan Alexander, completed December 18, 2013

Jennifer Awes Freeman, completed March 15, 2013

M.T.S. Thesis Committees:

Will Hunter, 2014

Field Education Supervision:

Mitchell Esswein (Princeton Theological Seminary), 2013-2014

University of Alabama:

M.A. Examination Committee:

Timothy LaBarbera, completed April 9, 2012

Undergraduate Supervision:

University of Alabama:

"Syriac Manuscript Catalogue Data Digitization," Robert Aydin, New College, University of Alabama, Summer 2011-2013.

"Syriac Reference Portal", Computer Based Honors Program, 2011-2012

"Syriac and Arabic Personal and Place Names," Katherine Kelly, New College, University of Alabama, Fall 2011

"Survey of Classical Syriac Grammar," Robert Aydin, New College, Spring 2011-2012.

"Syriac Reference Portal," Ryan Stitt, Christian Wehby & Edward Gray, History Department, Research Presentation at Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity Conference, April, 2011

"Ancient Documents in a Digital Age: *The Syriac Reference Portal*," Margaret McCormick, History Department and CBHP, Research Presentation at Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity Conference, April, 2011

"History of Christianity in the Middle East: Cyberinfrastructure Project," Margaret McCormick, Computer Based Honors Program, 2010-2011

"Syriac Manuscript Preservation," Kim Kosta, Computer Based Honors Program, 2010 (Spring & Fall)

"East Syrian Evangelization Methods During the Tang Dynasty," Susan Gorin, History Department, Research Presentation at Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity Conference, April 15, 2010

"The Historical Memory of the Bar Kokhba Revolt and the Imagination of Israel," Matthew MacKay, Honors Thesis, History Department, 2009-2010

Undergraduate Supervision Continued:

- “Aramaic Font Rendering for the Mac OS X,” Blake Basset, Computer Based Honors Program, 2009-2010
- “Ancient Syriac Manuscript Preservation Project,” Kyle Redding, Computer Based Honors Program, Fall 2009
- “Early Biblical Manuscripts and a Comparison of Armenian Depictions of the Adoration of the Magi in Illuminated Gospels,” Sarah E. Kelly, International Honors Program, Fall 2008

Professional Development:

- Attended meeting of the North American Society of Early-Career Theologians in conjunction with the 2014 annual meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, San Diego, Calif. November 21-22, 2014
- Attended meeting of the North American Society of Early-Career Theologians in conjunction with the 2013 annual meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, Baltimore, Md., November 21-22, 2013
- “Roundtable Seminar for Newly Appointed Faculty,” The Association of Theological Schools, October 25-27, 2013
- Participant & Session Facilitator, THATCamp (The Humanities and Technology Camp), Vanderbilt University, November 2-3, 2012
- “Understanding the Promotion and Tenure Process,” Faculty Development Seminar, Vanderbilt University, November 9, 2012
- “Applying for Internal Funding,” Faculty Development Seminar, Vanderbilt University, September 14, 2012
- “New Faculty Orientation,” Vanderbilt University, August 17, 2012
- “Teaching at Vanderbilt,” Center for Teaching, Vanderbilt University, August 15, 2012
- Certificate of Completion, “Preventing Harassment (online training),” College of Arts & Sciences, University of Alabama, September 6, 2011
- Certificate of Completion, “Alabama Ethics Law Training (online training),” Alabama Ethics Commission, April 29, 2011
- “Best Practices in Undergraduate Research,” College of Arts & Sciences, University of Alabama, February 4, 2011
- David G. Bauer Grantsmanship Training Fellowship, College of Arts & Sciences, University of Alabama, February-November, 2010-2011
- “Clicker Overview” training event, Faculty Resource Center, University of Alabama, September 1, 2010
- “P-Card Policies and Procedures Training” Purchasing Card Services, University of Alabama, August 4, 2010
- Learner-Centered Outcomes and Assessments Workshops, College of Arts and Sciences, University of Alabama, October 19-November 16, 2009
- 2nd Annual Active & Collaborative Learning Conference, Office of Institutional Effectiveness, University of Alabama, February 6, 2009
- Tegrity Course Capture System Workshop, Office of Etech, University of Alabama, January 5, 2009

Professional Development Continued:

“Resources for Teaching the Qur’an: A Faculty Discussion,” facilitated by Ludmila Zamah, Villanova University, November 6, 2007

New Faculty Training, Villanova Center for Liberal Education, Villanova University, August 24, 2007

New Faculty Orientation, Villanova Institute for Teaching and Learning, Villanova University, August 20-21, 2007

Completion of Teaching Transcript Program, McGraw Center for Teaching and Learning, Princeton University, January 22, 2007

“Evaluating Student Writing,” Kerry Walk, History Department Professional Development Workshop, Princeton University, October 25, 2006

Book Group on Ken Bain, *What the Best College Teachers Do*, McGraw Center for Teaching and Learning, Princeton University, August 1 & 8, 2006

“Preparing the Syllabus,” Dan Rodgers and James McDougall, History Department Professional Development Workshop, Princeton University, “February 15, 2006

“Precepts at Midterm: Grading and Dynamics,” Dirk Hartog, History Department Professional Development Workshop, Princeton University, October 26, 2005

“Identity and Stereotype Threat: Powerful Influences for Student Development, Achievement and Performance,” Valerie Purdie-Vaughns, McGraw Center for Teaching and Learning, Princeton University, October 19, 2005

“The Precept in Practice,” Anne Kornhauser, Thorin Tritter, and Eileen Kane, History Department Professional Development Workshop, Princeton University, September 28, 2005

University Service:

Vanderbilt University:

Divinity School:

Academic Programs Committee, 2012-2014

ATS Self-Study Subcommittee

D.Min. Subcommittee

Admissions Committee, 2014-2015

Hebrew Bible Dual Search Committee, 2013-2014

Steering Committee, New Paradigms in Teaching for Ministry Conference, 2014-2015

Faculty Marshall, Installation of Dean Emilie Townes, August 23, 2013

Office of the Provost:

Copyright Task Force, 2014-2015

University Libraries:

XQuery Summer Institute at Vanderbilt University, Project Faculty, 2014 (funded by the NEH Office of Digital Humanities), <http://xqueryinstitute.org/>

University Service Continued:

University Libraries:

“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-present

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

Hosted a guest presentation at the Warren Center: “Missionary Stories and the Formation of the Syriac Churches,” by Prof. Jeanne-Nicole Mellon Saint-Laurent, Marquette University, February 24, 2015

Co-organizer of RELACS “Religion in Late Antique Culture and Society” a two day workshop with Vanderbilt and University of Tennessee Faculty, October 23-24, 2014

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 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:

- Society of Biblical Literature, Unit Steering Committee Member, "Syriac Literature and Interpretations of Sacred Texts", 2015-present
- Workshop Organizer, "Syriaca.org Introductory Workshop," Rutgers University, New Brunswick, N.J., March 7, 2015
- Symposium Co-Organizer, "Hugoye Symposium IV: Syriac and the Digital Humanities," Rutgers University, New Brunswick, N.J., March 6, 2015, http://www.bethmardutho.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=627
- Panel Organizer, "The Digital Humanities and the Study of Christianity in Late Antiquity: Reflections on a Disciplinary Intersection," American Historical Association, New York, January 4, 2015, <https://aha.confex.com/aha/2015/webprogram/Session12400.html>
- 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, 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
- Interview with Wayne Grayson, *Tuscaloosa News* on use of ipads in the classroom at UA, article published September 18, 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
- 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

Professional Service Continued:

- 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
- Interview with Jasmine Cannon, *Crimson White* on Middle Eastern Studies at UA, article published 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
- Interview with Amanda Sams, *Crimson White* on death of UA undergraduate History major Christopher Sherrill, article published February 25, 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
- Interview with Bethany Blair, *Crimson White* on history of Valentine’s Day and Saint Valentine, article published February 14, 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
- 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

Community Engagement

“Lenten Reflections on a Rule of Life,” six week series, St. Bartholomew’s Episcopal Church, Nashville, Tenn., February 22-March 29, 2015

“Interview about *The Practical Christology of Philoxenos of Mabbug*” with Chris Benda, Vanderbilt University as part of the “Authorial Intentions” podcast, March 3, 2015, <http://library.vanderbilt.edu/divinity/faculty-staff/interviews.php>

“Who are the Christians of Syria and Iraq?” Community Breakfast Series, Vanderbilt University Divinity School, Nashville, Tenn., February 5, 2015, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J8Y-P4DHM8g&list=PL50A566D336C21B7B&index=1>

Research featured by the National Endowment for the Humanities in Steve Moyer, “Wherever Syriac Is Spoken.” *Humanities* (November-December, 2014), 4-5, <http://www.neh.gov/humanities/2014/novemberdecember/curio/wherever-syriac-spoken>

“Interview about *Syriaca.org: The Syriac Reference Portal*” with Chris Benda, Vanderbilt University as part of the “Authorial Intentions” podcast, November 14, 2014, <http://library.vanderbilt.edu/divinity/faculty-staff/interviews.php>

“Read This Book: Saint Isaac of Nineveh, *On Asetical Life*,” Guest Blog Post for “VDS Voices” blog, October 12, 2014, <https://my.vanderbilt.edu/vanderbiltdivinity/2014/10/read-this-book-october-2014-2/>

Research Presentation at Vanderbilt Divinity School Admissions “Dinner with the Dean”, October 7, 2014

“Lost History of Christianity in Asia, Africa and the Middle East,” Guest Presentation, First Presbyterian Church, Nashville, Tenn., April 28, 2013

“Christians and Romans,” Guest Presentation, First Presbyterian Church, Nashville, Tenn., April 21, 2013

Q&A about the emperor Constantine’s conversion to Christianity with National History Day contestants at Shotwell Academy, Houston, Texas (Phone interview with students from Ms. Monica Broussard’s seventh-grade class), February 15, 2013

“Syriac Christianity,” Guest Presentation, West End United Methodist Church, Nashville, Tenn., Dec 2, 2012

Meditation on study and prayer from the work of Isaac of Nineveh, Inter-Religious Service, Vanderbilt Divinity School, November 28, 2012

“Forgotten Christians of Asia, Africa and the Middle East,” Presentation to “Global Religions Today” seminar, Crawford House, Vanderbilt University, September 28, 2012

Professional Societies:

American Historical Association
American Society of Church History
Byzantine Studies Association of North America, Inc.
Canadian Society of Syriac Studies
Conference on Faith and History
Humanities, Arts, Science, and Technology Alliance and Collaboratory (HASTAC)
Medieval Academy of America
North American Patristics Society
Society of Biblical Literature

References:

Prof. Peter Brown (emeritus), History Department, Princeton University
Prof. Dame Averil Cameron (emerita), Theology Faculty, University of Oxford,
Prof. James Mixson, History Department, University of Alabama
Prof. Columba Stewart, OSB, Hill Museum & Manuscript Library, Saint John's University,
Collegeville, Minn.
Prof. J. Ross Wagner, Biblical Studies, Duke Divinity School
Prof. Robert Wuthnow, Department of Sociology, Princeton University