

CURRICULUM VITAE

THEODORE M. VIAL, JR.

Associate Professor of Theology
Iliff School of Theology
2201 S. University Blvd.
Denver, CO 80210
tvial@iliff.edu
(303) 765-3166

EDUCATION

1994 Ph.D. University of Chicago
1987 M.A. University of Chicago
1985 B.A. Brown University (Religious Studies)

Dissertation: "A. E. Biedermann and the Liturgy Debate in Mid-nineteenth Century Zurich: A Test Case of the Role of a Christian Theologian." Advisor: B.A. Gerrish. Received distinction.

BOOKS

2004 *Liturgy Wars: Ritual Theory and Protestant Reform in Nineteenth Century Zurich*, Religion in History, Society, & Culture Series (Routledge). Finalist, AAR Best First Book in the History of Religions, 2004.
2001 Co-editor (with Mark Hadley), *Ethical Monotheism, Past and Present: Essays in Honor of Wendell S. Dietrich* (Scholars Press/Brown Series in Judaic Studies).

CHAPTERS

Forthcoming "Cognitive Approaches," *Teaching Ritual*, Catherine Bell, ed. AAR Teaching Religious Studies Series (Oxford University Press).
2005 "Schleiermacher and the State," *The Cambridge Companion to Friedrich Schleiermacher*, Jacqueline Mariña, ed. Cambridge Companions to Religion (Cambridge University Press).

CHAPTERS, CONTINUED

- 2004 "Modes of Religiosity and Popular Religious Practices at the Time of the Reformation," *Theorizing the Past*, Harvey Whitehouse and Luther Martin, eds. (AltaMira).
- 2001 "Introduction," *Ethical Monotheism, Past and Present: Essays in Honor of Wendell S. Dietrich* (Scholars Press/Brown Series in Judaic Studies).

REFEREED JOURNAL ARTICLES

- Forthcoming "How Does the Cognitive Science of Religion Stack Up as a Big Theory, à la Hume?" *Method & Theory in the Study of Religions*.
- 2005 "Can Memory Fill In Gaps of Memory? Applications of the Cognitive Science of Religion in the History of Religions," *Historical Reflections*.
- 2004 "The Rubber Meets the Road: The Cognitive Science of Religion and Historical Ritualized Practices," *Method & Theory in the Study of Religions* 16 (3): 292-300.
- 1999 "Opposites Attract: The Body and Cognition in a Debate over Baptism," *Numen* 46: 121-145.
- 1998 "Friedrich Schleiermacher on the Central Place of Worship in Theology," *Harvard Theological Review* 91 (1): 59-73.
- 1996 "A. E. Biedermann's Filial Christology in Its Political Context," *Zeitschrift für neuere Theologiegeschichte/Journal for the History of Modern Theology* 3 (2): 203-224.

REVIEW ARTICLES

- Forthcoming Matthias Wolfes, *Öffentlichkeit und Nationalstaat. Friedrich Schleiermachers politische Wirksamkeit*, Arbeiten zur Kirchengeschichte, no. 85 (Berlin: De Gruyter 2004), *Zeitschrift für neuere Theologiegeschichte/Journal for the History of Modern Theology*.
- Forthcoming "News from the Cognitive Science of Religion," *Religion*.

BOOK REVIEWS

- Forthcoming Matthew L. Becker, *The Self-Giving God and Salvation History: The Trinitarian Theology of Johannes von Hofmann*, *The Journal of Religion*.
- 2004 Roy A. Rappaport, *Ritual and Religion in the Making of Humanity*, *Religion*.
- 2004 Harvey Whitehouse, *Arguments and Icons: Divergent Modes of Religiosity*, *Religion*.
- 1999 Patricia E. Guenther-Gleason, *On Schleiermacher and Gender Politics*, *Zeitschrift für neuere Theologiegeschichte/Journal for the History of Modern Theology*.
- 1998 Robert Eric Frykenberg, *History and Belief: The Foundations of Historical Understanding*, *Religious Studies Review*.

BOOK REVIEWS, CONTINUED

- 1998 Thomas A. Idinopulos and Edward A. Yonan, eds., *Religion and Reductionism: Essays on Eliade, Segal, and the Challenge of the Social Sciences for the Study of Religion*, *The Journal of Religion*.
- 1997 Dawn DeVries, *Jesus Christ in the Preaching of Calvin and Schleiermacher*, *Religious Studies Review*.
- 1993 Catherine Bell, *Ritual Theory, Ritual Practice*, *The Journal of Religion*.
- 1992 Hans Penner, *Impasse and Resolution: A Critique of the Study of Religion*, *The Journal of Religion*.
- 1991 Glyn Richards, *Towards a Theology of Religions*, *The Journal of Religion*.

INVITED LECTURES/PRESENTATIONS

- 2004 "The Question of God: C. S. Lewis, Sigmund Freud, and the Meaning of Life," WHRO (Public Television Station), October 3.
- 2004 "When Evolution Collides with Creationism," NEXUS (public discussion forum sponsored by *The Virginian-Pilot*), October 18.
- 2004 "The Religious Culture Wars and Election 2004: What's at Stake?" (With Craig Wansink), Center for the Study of Religious Freedom, Virginia Wesleyan College, September 23.
- 2003 "What You Need to Know about Friedrich Schleiermacher," Department of Religion, College of William & Mary, October 22.
- 2003 "From Saddlebags to Bookbags: The Role of Methodism in the History of Higher Education in the U.S.," public lecture at Virginia Wesleyan College, April 10.
- 2002 "Implications of Cognitive Approaches for Historical and Comparative Studies of Religion," at the "Minds & Gods: Exploring the Cognitive" conference at the Culture and Cognition Program, University of Michigan (Ann Arbor), March 29-30.
- 2002 "Doctrinal and Imagistic Modes of Religiosity in 16th-Century Religious Practices," at the "British Academy Networks Project of 'Modes of Religiosity'" conference, University of Vermont, August 1-5.
- 2001 "The Role of Religion in 19th-Century German Nationalism," Department of Religion (faculty and majors), College of William & Mary, September 12.
- 1997 "Translators, Scholars, and Veil Makers: On Schleiermacher, Translating a Translator, and the Root Metaphor of the Academy," German Honor Society, Virginia Wesleyan College, November 14.

PAPERS PRESENTED

- 2004 "How Does the Cognitive Science of Religion Stack Up as a Big Theory, à la Hume, Freud, or Durkheim?" North American Association for the Study of Religion, San Antonio, November 19

PAPERS PRESENTED, CONTINUED

- 2003 Respondent, "Memoria, Habitus, Imitatio: The Power of the Past in the Present," History of Christianity Section at the American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA.
- 2003 "A Positive Science: Friedrich Schleiermacher on Theology as a University Discipline," American Society of Church History, Chicago, IL January 3.
- 2002 "The Usefulness of the Modes of Religiosity Theory for Historical Studies of Popular Religious Practices in the 16th Century," North American Association for the Study of Religion, Toronto, November 23.
- 2000 "Good to Eat and Good to Think: Cognitive Aspects of the Eucharist," International Association for the History of Religions Congress, Durban, South Africa.
- 2000 Response to Francis Schüssler Fiorenza, "Pluralism: A Western Commodity or Justice for the Other?" Brown University Symposium on Ethical Monotheism.
- 1999 "Hermeneutics When the Circle is Vicious," American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, Boston, MA.
- 1996 "Friedrich Schleiermacher on the Central Place of Worship in Dogmatic Theology," American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA.
- 1996 "Speech Act Theory and Baptism" Upper Midwest American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, St. Paul, MN.
- 19951995 "The Role of Protestant Minister as Culture Broker: The Political Sermons of F. Schleiermacher During the Prussian War of Liberation," Rocky Mountains/Great Plains American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, Denver, CO.
- 1994 "The Role of Ritual in the Transmission of Religious Traditions: Transforming Ritualization," Midwest American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, Valparaiso, IN.
- 1992 "A. E. Biedermann and the 'Liturgiestreit' of 1864-1868: A 'History of Religions' Approach to the Study of Nineteenth Century Theology," 1992, American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA.

CONFERENCES/SYMPOSIA/PANELS ORGANIZED

- 2005 "No Theory is an Island: Boundaries, Bridges, and the Cognitive Science of Religion," International Association for the History of Religions World Congress, Tokyo, March 24-30 (speakers include Greg Alles, Ilkka Pyysiäinen, Luther Martin).
- 2004 (Daniel W. Hardy, co-convener), "The Theological Genesis, Criticisms, and Appropriations of the 'Science of Religions' circa 1870-1900" (American Academy of Religion annual meetings, San Antonio, November 20-23 (speakers include Ivan Strenski, Robert Segal, Lori Pearson, Tom Ryba).
- 2004 "New Conceptual Models in the Study of Religions," North American Association for the Study of Religion, San Antonio, November 19 (speakers include Catherine Bell, Laurie Patton, Robert Yelle).

CONFERENCES/SYMPOSIA/PANELS ORGANIZED, CONTINUED

- 2003 “Current Cognitive Research in Children's Development of Religious Concepts,” Society for the Scientific Study of Religion national meetings, Norfolk, Oct. 23-26 (speakers include Paul Harris, Carl Johnson, Melanie Nyhof, Justin Barrett).
- 2003 “Cognitive Science and Ritual Theory: *Bringing Ritual to Mind* (Robert McCauley and E. Thomas Lawson),” Society for the Scientific Study of Religion national meetings, Norfolk Oct. 23-26 (speakers include Harvey Whitehouse, Robert McCauley, E. Thomas Lawson).
- 2003 Convener, “Cognitive Science and the Evolution of Religion: *In Gods We Trust* (Scott Atran),” Society for the Scientific Study of Religion national meetings, Norfolk, Oct. 23-26 (speakers include Greg Alles, Paulo Sousa, Karen Johnson, Jesse Bering).
- 2002 Convener, “The Idea of the University,” 19th-Century Theology Group, American Academy of Religion national meetings, Toronto (speakers include Richard Rosengarten, Greg Alles, Friedrich Wilhelm Graf).
- 2002 “Religion and Nationalism,” Center for the Study of Religious Freedom Spring Symposium, Virginia Wesleyan College (speakers include José Casanova, David Chidester, Tamara Sonn, Harvey Whitehouse).
- 2000 (Mark Hadley, co-organizer), Symposium on Ethical Monotheism, Brown University (speakers include Francis Schüssler Fiorenza, Robert Gibbs, Jeffrey Stout).
- 2000 “The Millennium,” Center for the Study of Religious Freedom Spring Symposium, Virginia Wesleyan College (speakers include Paul Boyer, Stephen Stein, James Tabor)

AWARDS, GRANTS, AND HONORS

- 2003-2004 Fellow, European-American Young Scholars’ Summer Institute led by Hans Joas and José Casanova (hosted by Max Weber Center for Advanced Cultural and Social Studies, Erfurt and the National Humanities Center, Research Triangle Park; funded by Mellon and Humboldt Foundations)
- 2004-2007 Batten Distinguished Professor, Virginia Wesleyan College
- 2004-2006 Fellow, Center for the Study of Religious Freedom, Virginia Wesleyan College
- 2002 American Academy of Religion Individual Research Grant
- 2001 The Samuel Nelson Gray Distinguished Teaching Award, Virginia Wesleyan College (given to one faculty member annually)
- 1999-2001, 2004 Extraordinary raises, Virginia Wesleyan College
- 1999, 2001 Merit Stipend (given to one faculty member in each of three divisions annually), Virginia Wesleyan College
- 1998 John Templeton Foundation Science and Religion Course Program grant (\$10,000)

AWARDS, GRANTS, AND HONORS, CONTINUED

- 1998, 2000, Virginia Wesleyan College Summer Faculty Development Grants
 2001, 2002,
 2004
- 1994 Distinction awarded to dissertation by The University of Chicago Divinity School
 1992 Fellow, Overseas Dissertation Research Committee, The University of Chicago, for archival research in Zurich
- 1985 Departmental Honors, Religious Studies, Brown University
 1985 Bishop McVickar Award for Best Paper in Religious Studies, Brown University

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

American Academy of Religion
 Member of Steering Committee and Treasurer, Nineteenth-Century Theology Group, AAR
 Member of Steering Committee, Schleiermacher Group, AAR
 Councilor, North American Association for the Study of Religion
 Member of Advisory Board, Institute of Cognition and Culture, Queen's University Belfast

SERVICE TO THE ILIFF SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

- 2005-2006 Chair, Faculty Personnel Committee
 2005-2006 Joint Ph.D. Committee
 2005-2006 Admission, Retention, and Financial Aid Committee

SERVICE TO VIRGINIA WESLEYAN COLLEGE

- 2001-2005 Director, Honors and Scholars Program
 1999-2005 Faculty Advisor, Phi Eta Sigma Freshman Honors Society
 2004-2005 Search Committee, Director for the Center for the Study of Religious Freedom
 2002-2004 Co-chair, Educational Programs Commission
 2001-2003 Membership Chair, American Association of University Professors, Virginia Wesleyan College Chapter
- 2003 Search Committee, Judaic Studies
 2003 Search Committee, Classics
 2002 Search Committee, Modern European History
 2001 Search Committee, Classics
- 1998-2000 Co-Chair, Educational Programs Commission
 1998-2000 Vice President, American Association of University Professors, Virginia Wesleyan College Chapter
- 1998 Search Committee, Director for the Center for the Study of Religious Freedom

CURRENT RESEARCH PROJECTS

Constructions of religion, secularism, and nationalism in modernity through Friedrich Schleiermacher's sermons; the intersection of developments of modern theology and modern theory of religions; cognitive science and ritual—in particular popular religious practices at the time of the Protestant Reformation and mnemonic strategies for transmitting religious knowledge and group identity; structural and comparative analyses of theories of religions.

COURSES TAUGHT

Christianity from the Reformation to the Enlightenment (M.Div. sequence class); Theory and Methods in the Study of Religion (required Ph.D. seminar); Religion in the Public Square; Theological Interpretations of Human Nature (spring 2006).

MISCELLANEOUS

2002-Present	Father of Vaughn Xavier Walsh Vial
2000-Present	Father of Isha Grace Walsh Vial
1997-Present	Father of Theodore Aubrey Walsh Vial
1990-Present	Married to Nancy Walsh
1995	Religion Columnist, <i>The Rocky Mountain News</i> (Denver, CO).
1981-82, 1992	Lived and studied in Switzerland
1985-86	Lived and Studied in Israel