

CYRUS P. OLSEN III

April 2018

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ACADEMIC AND ADMINISTRATIVE POSITIONS

Associate Prof. Theology/Religious Studies, **University of Scranton**, 2013-Present

Tenure: Spring, 2014

Promotion: Spring, 2013

Director, General Education Assessment, **University of Scranton**, 2015-18

Assistant Prof. Theology/Religious Studies, **University of Scranton**, 2007-2013

Director (Interim), M.A. Program in Theology/Religious Studies, 2009-10

Lecturer, Theology/Religious Studies, **University of Scranton**, 2006-2007

EDUCATION

D.Phil. **University of Oxford**, Modern [Theology](#) (2008)

M.Phil. **University of Oxford**, Modern Theology (2003)

B.A. **University of Washington**, [Comparative History of Ideas](#) (2000)

Exch. **University of Aberdeen**, Philosophy, Theology, English, Latin (1998-1999)

GRANTS AND FUNDED PROJECTS (since 2008)

Diversity Initiatives Grant, “The Iconic Ghetto & White Space” (Elijah Anderson, Urban Ethnographer at Yale, as Guest Professor), \$2,500.00 (2017)

Sustained Growth for the University of Scranton’s Relationship with Uganda, East Africa, \$28,000.00 (2017)

Social Innovation, Entrepreneurship (MKT 484/584) & *Christianity & the Jesuits in India* (T/RS 284x), \$6,000.00 (2017)

Office of Research Services & Programs Interdisciplinary (ORSP) Collaboration funding entitled *Social Justice & the Vocation of Nursing* has been selected for funding at \$1,540.00 (2017)

ORSP's Interdisciplinary Collaboration funding entitled *Representation in Science and the Humanities* has been selected for funding at \$1,300 (2017)

Teagle Workshop, Wabash College, Center of Inquiry in the Liberal Arts, Oct. 23-25, 2015

Lilly Fellows Program in Humanities and the Arts, Summer Fellow, "What Does it Mean to Be Human in a Consumer Culture", Xavier University, July 7-26, 2014

Director: [David J. Burns](#), D.B.A., Prof. & Chair, Marketing & Sales, Kennesaw State University

Center for Teaching and Learning Excellence, Teaching Enhancement Grant: "Mind-mapping for Concept Retention: Concept Visualization & Learning", 2011-2012

Office of the Provost, Intersession Research Grant: "Vulnerability: Lessons for Religion from Feminist Thought, Sustainable Practice, and Disability Studies", Jan. 2011

Information Literacy Stipend, Weinberg Memorial Library, for Co-Taught Course "Science and Religion" as a First-Year Seminar; co-teacher Dr. Ben Bishop (Computing Sciences)

Education for Justice Office: "Ethics of Consumption" regional symposium planned and hosted: Scranton, April 23, 2010

President's Fellowship for Summer Research Program, Office of Research Services Faculty Mentor: William Woody, *Furthering Science-Religion Dialogue: On Shared Holistic Concepts*, Summer 2009.

Office of the Provost, Summer Research Grant: "Novelty & Action: Henri Bergson & Maurice Blondel's Impact on 20th-Century Catholic Theology", Summer, 2007.

PUBLICATIONS AND PAPERS

Edited Volume:

[*Hermeneutics of Tradition*](#), co-edited by Cyrus Olsen and Craig Hovey (Cascade Press, 2014).

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles:

"Myth and Culture: On Louis Bouyer's Theology of Participation," *Gregorianum*, 95, 4 (Dec. 2014), 775-799.

"The Acts of 'Turning' and 'Returning' in Aquinas", *Nova et Vetera*, English Edition, Vol. 11, No. 3 (2013), 871-96.

"Spirituality and the Healthcare Professional", *Linacre Quarterly*, 78:4 (Nov. 2011), 437-454.

"A Dramatic Role? Hans Urs von Balthasar on the 'Powers'", *Ashland Theological Journal*, 43 (Nov. 2011), 1-20.

“Exitus-Reditus in H.U. von Balthasar”, *Heythrop Journal*, 52:4 (July 2011), 643-658.

“Remaining in Christ: The Paradoxical Heart of Hans Urs von Balthasar’s Theology”, *Logos: A Journal of Catholic Thought and Culture*, 13:3 (Summer 2010), 52-76.

Other Journal Articles

“Ontology, Thomism, and the *Esse* of Christ: A Response to R.E. Houser,” *Saint Anselm Journal* vol. 9, no. 2 (2013). [refereed e-journal]

“Act and Event in Rahner and von Balthasar: A Case Study in Catholic Systematics”, *New Blackfriars* 89, (Jan. 2008), 3-21.

Book Chapters, Collected Volumes:

“Interdependent and Vulnerable: Sustainability and Augustinian Theological Anthropology,” in Kim Paffenroth, John Doody and Mark Smillie (eds.), [*Augustine and the Environment*](#) (Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield, 2016), September 2016.

“Tell it Slant: The True Motion of Love’s Contemplation”, in Simon Oliver, Karen Kilby, and Tom O’Loughlin (eds.), [*Faithful Reading: New Essays in Theology and Philosophy for Fergus Kerr, OP*](#) (London: T & T Clark, 2012), 243-268. [Peer invited and vetted]

Podcast:

“[When to Stop the Train?](#)”, EDECMO podcast, guest ethicist for resuscitation ethics, Nov. 2014

“[Organ Transplantation on ECMO](#),” EDECMO Podcast, guest ethicist for resuscitation ethics, January 16, 2018

Book Reviews:

Heaven Opens: The Trinitarian Mysticism of Adrienne Von Speyr, Matthew Lewis Sutton. In *Horizons: The Journal of the College Theology Society*, 41, no. 2 (Dec. 2014), 400-401.

Hope in a Democratic Age, Alan Mittleman. In *Modern Age*, vol. 55, no. 4 (Fall 2013), 79-82.

Nouvelle Théologie & Sacramental Ontology: A Return to Mystery, Hans Boersma. In *International Journal of Systematic Theology*, 15.3 (July 2013), 364-367.

Nietzsche’s Epic of the Soul: Thus Spoke Zarathustra, T. K. Seung. In *Religion and Literature* 39.1 (Spring 2007), 110-13.

Scattering the Seed: A Guide Through Balthasar’s Early Writings on Philosophy and the Arts, Aidan Nichols, O.P. In *New Blackfriars* 88 (Jan. 2007), 115-117.

Karl Rahner: Theology and Philosophy, Karen Kilby. In *Heythrop Journal* 47 (Oct. 2006), 670-674.

How Things Are in the World: Metaphysics and Theology in Wittgenstein and Rahner, Terrance W. Klein. In *The Heythrop Journal*, 47 (Oct. 2006), 674-676.

The Eschatology of Hans Urs von Balthasar, Nicholas Healy. In *The Journal of Theological Studies* 57 (Apr. 2006), 395-397.

The Cambridge Companion to Karl Rahner, ed. Declan Marmion. In *International Journal of Systematic Theology* 8 (Apr. 2006), 209-212.

Hans Urs von Balthasar and the Dramatic Structure of Truth, D.C. Schindler. In *Review of Metaphysics* 59 (Sept. 2005), 202-03.

The Catholic Revival in English Literature: 1845-1961, Ian Ker. In *Literature and Theology* 18 (2004), 496-498.

Secret Fire: The Spiritual Vision of J.R.R. Tolkien, Stratford Caldecott. In *Chesterton Review* 30 (2004), 106-109.

Images of Redemption, Patrick Sherry. In *New Blackfriars* 85 (2004), 258-260.

Work in Progress:

Articles:

“Representation in Science and the Humanities,” co-publication with Duane Armitage (Philosophy)

“Social Justice & the Vocation of Nursing,” co-publication with Catherine Lovecchio (Nursing)

SELECT PROFESSIONAL ADDRESSES (*PEER REVIEWED)

“Philosophy of Critical Care,” [The Big Sick](#) 2018, The Sickest Patients, The First Hour, Zermatt, Switzerland, Feb. 7-8, 2018

* “Health & Healing within Religiously-Affiliated Institutions in Uganda: A Case Study of the Bwindi Community Hospital”, Intersections of Health, Psychotherapy and Spiritual Practice African Studies Association, 60th Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL, November 16, 2017

*“Assessment and the Promotion of Ignatian Principles of Justice,” AJCU International Education Conference, University of San Francisco, November 9-11, 2016

“Theology After C.S. Lewis”, C.S. Lewis Society, Oxford, Mar. 11, 2014.

“Tell it Slant: Theology and University Education,” Office of Research Services Lecture, University of Scranton, Oct. 4, 2013.

Moderator, “Conversion in St. Thomas Aquinas,” Catholic Theological Society of America, 2013

Respondent to Ed Hauser, "The Nature of God According to Avicenna and Aquinas", Metaphysics Conference, Institute for Saint Anselm Studies, June 5-6, 2012

*"Weighed in the Balance: A Reading of *Gaudium et Spes*", *Vatican II Reconsidered*, Walsh University, May 3-5, 2012

"Before the Judgment Seat: Wisdom and Theological Education", *Pedagogical Ressourcement*, Symposium, Malone University, March 31, 2012

*"Hermeneutics of Tradition", Wild Card Session, AAR Annual Meeting, San Francisco, Nov. 2011

"A Dramatic Role? Hans Urs von Balthasar on the 'Powers'", *Responding to the Powers*, Ashland University, Feb. 12, 2011

*"Embodied Hermeneutics: Liturgical Enactment in Blondel and Feminist Philosophy of Religion", Philosophy of Religion Section, AAR Annual Meeting, Montréal, Canada, Nov. 7-9, 2009

*"Interdependent and Vulnerable: A Sustainable Theological Anthropology", AAR Mid-Atlantic Meeting, Baltimore, Mar. 27, 2009

"The Concept of the 'Whole' in Catholic Theology", Research Seminar Series, University of Scranton, Oct. 17, 2008

*"Divine and Human Creativity in the Annunciation: Beauty and Illumination", AAR Annual Meeting, Systematic Theology Section, Philadelphia, Nov. 21, 2005.

"The Significance of Act & Event in the Theology of Karl Rahner and Hans Urs von Balthasar", Oxford-Bonn Konferenz, R. F.-Wilhelms-Universität Bonn, Germany, Sept. 22, 2005.

"Remaining in Christ: The Paradoxical Heart of Hans Urs von Balthasar's Theology", invited Centenary Lecture in Honor of Hans Urs von Balthasar, Ave Maria University & ITI, Gaming, Austria, Sept. 2, 2005.

"The Conversion to the Phantasm in Aquinas and Its Modern Implications", University of Oxford, Faculty of Theology, Jan. 27, 2004.

*"How the Blind are Led: Children and Ethical Responsibility in Recent Film", 11th Conference of The International Society for Religion, Literature and Culture, Leeds University, York, Sept. 13-15, 2002.

*"Imagination and the Knowledge of God", University of Oxford, Faculty of Theology, Mar. 4, 2002.

COURSES TAUGHT (since 2008):

Christianity in Africa	Beauty & Justice	Modern Councils (MA)
Bible (RN-BSN Hybrid)	Immersion Experience	Christology (MA)
Intro. Christian Theology	Signs & Symbols	Ecclesiology (MA)
First Year Seminars (Bible)	Economics & Theology	Honors Tutorials
Science & Religion (FYS)	Inside Catholic Tradition	Self in Psychology & Religion
Neuroscience & Addiction	Models of the Church	Academic Development
Religion & Film	Sacramental Imagination	

Alternative Course offerings:

RN-BSN Bible Course, Hybrid Online and In-Person at Geisinger Health System, Scranton & Wilkes-Barre, PA, Intersession 2017

SERVICE

Department:

General Education Subcommittee, Program Review for 2012-2017

B.A. Honors Thesis Internal Examiner, Raymond A. Stemrich, Religion and Bioethics, 2016

Middle States Assessment Sub-Committee, Department of Theology/Religious Studies, 2013-15

Online Education Sub-Committee, Department of Theology/Religious Studies, 2013-15

Vatican II Fiftieth Anniversary Planning Committee, 2014-2015; conference held May 1-2, 2015

Web-Development, Department of Theology/Religious Studies, 2011-2013

B.A. Honors Thesis Supervisor: William Woody, “The Trinity, the Church, and Man”, 2010-2011 (honorable mention For Library Research Award, 2011)

Interim Director, M.A. Program in Theology/Religious Studies, University of Scranton, 2009-10

M.A. Thesis Supervisor: Joseph Dilauro, “Liturgical Consequences of Joseph Ratzinger’s Relational Ontology”, 2009-2010

B.A. Honors Thesis Supervisor: Gina Fullam, “On Human Dignity: Theological Anthropology & Political Implications of Philosophical Arguments in Reproductive Technology”, 2009-10

M.A. Thesis, Internal Examiner, Stephen Fitzpatrick, “Thomistic Contributions to Christology”, Fall, 2009

MA Thesis, Internal Examiner: Bryne Allport, “Seeking God in Vain: Vanity and the Possibility of Being Before God”, April 22, 2009

Vetted Job Candidates at Initial Interview Stage, AAR Annual Meetings in Chicago (2007);
Montreal (2009); San Francisco (Nov. 2011)

Webpage Manager for Theology Faculty, University of Scranton, 2007-08

College of Arts & Sciences:

Ethicist for the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC), 2014-present

Faculty-Student Research, Sarah E. Potter (Computing Sciences), Richard Walsh (Associate Provost
for Operations), An Assessment Mobile Application for Educational Institutions, Spring
2017-Spring 2018

“Self in Psychology and Religion,” Honors course co-taught with Prof. Christie Karpiak
(Psychology), Spring 2017

Advisory Group, Catholic Intellectual Tradition, 2015-present

Academic Development Program (ADP) Teaching Faculty, 2014-present

Preview Day Presentations on First Year Seminars, with CAS Dean’s Office, Sat. April 5, 2014;
April 20, 2015

“Cinema Paradiso: Religion and Film”, Honors course with Prof. Stephen Whittaker (English &
Theatre)

“Addiction: Perspectives from Neuroscience & Theology”, Honors course with Assoc. Prof. John
Deák (Chemistry)

Idea-making Seminar Panelist: Honors Program, Intersession, 2012-present

Special Jesuit Liberal Arts Panelist, *Lord of the Rings*, April 3, 2013

First Year Seminars: Bible, 2011-Present

First Year Seminar Pilot Course: Science & Religion, co-taught with Benjamin Bishop
(Computing Sciences), 2009 & 2010

College of Arts & Sciences Academic Advising Center, Feb. 1, 2011-2016 (remunerated); Aug. 21,
2017-present

Lecturer for *The Catholic Intellectual Tradition*, 2010-Present (Catholic theology & poetry)

Lectures Coordinated and Organized:

Elijah Anderson, PhD, *White Space & The Iconic Ghetto*, November 16, 2017; co-sponsored by
The Office of Equity and Diversity, The Jesuit Center, The Ellacuria Initiative,
Departments of Sociology/Criminal Justice, Theology/Religious Studies

Zachary Shinar, M.D., *Grey's Reality: How TV is Totally Right About What it's Like to Be a Doctor*, May 3, 2016.

Julia Haslett, "Simone Weil and Justice," Office of Educational Assessment, January, 2016.

Win Riley, Director of *Walker Percy: A Documentary Film*, Screening & Lecture, Mar. 29, 2011

Zachary Shinar, M.D., *E.R. Medicine and Higher Education*, for SJLA students, Fall 2009

Marie Cabaud Meaney, "Waiting on God: Life and Thought of the Mystic Simone Weil", Oct. 29, 2008

Michael Ward, "Imagining God: C.S. Lewis & the Seven Heavens", May 1, 2008

University:

Faculty Senate, 2018-2020

Uganda Summit 2017, September 16, 2017

Family Weekend Lecturer, "The Beauty of the Humanities in Jesuit Education," September 23, 2017

Invited Speaker, Public viewing of *Silence* (Scorsese, 2017) by University Ministries, April 24, 2017

Faculty Observer, Bursting our Political Bubbles: A Dialogue Across Differences, Office of Community and Government Relations, University of Scranton, Mar. 28 & May 1, 2017

Global Subcommittee for "Metrics", MSCHE Self-Report Committee for 2019

"The Feminist Art of Judy Chicago," co-lecture with Darlene Miller-Lanning (Art History) for Education for Justice Teach-In, April 20, 2017

Lenten Film Series with Fr. Richard Malloy, S.J., Spring 2017

Conference Committee on Curriculum (CCC), Ex-Officio Member for the OEA, 2016-Present

"Inequity, Revitalization, and Justice: NEPA and Catholic Social Teaching," co-lecture with Meghan Rich (Sociology) for Education for Justice Teach-In, April 29, 2016

"Love, Justice, and Torture," co-lecture with Matthew Meyer (Philosophy) for Education for Justice Teach-In, April 30, 2015

Chair: "Daoism Presentation, Workshop, & Art Exhibit", 2015 International Conference on Asian Studies: Taiwan and China in the Global Context, March 29, 2015 "Dao of Tai Chi: The Application Mode in the Daoist *Nei-jing* Diagram (Inner Meridian Landscape)"
LI Juntao, Ph.D., Religious Studies, Sichuan Normal University, China NIE Qunhui, MFA, Sichuan Conservatory of Music, China

Faculty Senate's Ad-Hoc GE Assessment "Goals and Objectives" Committee, 2013-14

Lilly Fellows National Program, Fall 2011-Present (Conference hosted October 2013)

"I Believe in Attention," for *This I Believe*, University of Scranton, April 22, 2013

Lenten Film Series, University Ministries, Spring 2013

Middle-States Periodic Review Committee for University Hiring Practices, Fall 2012

"Rings of Power: Justice and Judgment in the Marketplace", Philosophy Café, March 1, 2012

"Cloaked in Holiness", Weekly Companion publication, University Ministries, Feb. 22, 2012

"Jesuit Principles & Fair Trade", A Fair-Trade Panel: Food We Eat, Oct. 27, 2011

Institutional Review Board for the Protection of Human Subjects (IRB), Fall 2011

Reader, University of Scranton Press, 2009-2010

Committee on University Image & Promotion, University of Scranton Faculty Alternate, 2007-08

Faculty Senate, University of Scranton, 2007-09

Curriculum Committee, University of Scranton, 2007-09

Academy

Chair, "Intersections of Health, Psychotherapy and Spiritual Practice," African Studies Association Conference, November 16, 2017, Chicago, Illinois

Monograph Reviewer, Lexington Books, 2017

AJCU Core Curriculum Consortium, Fall 2016-Present

AJCU Education Study Abroad Learning Outcomes Committee, Spring 2016-Present

Outside reader in a blind peer-review evaluation process for *Religion & Literature* (Spring 2008)

Wider Community:

CRISPR-Cas9 & Ethics, Lakeland Biomedical Sciences Program, Lakeland High School, March 21, 2017

CRISPR-Cas9 & Religion, co-presenter with Erica Lasek-Nesselquist (Biology) and Ivan Kent (Neuroscience), Lakeland Biomedical Sciences Program, Lakeland High School, March 8, 2016

Science & Religion, co-presenter with Eric Plumer (Theology/Religious Studies), Lakeland Biomedical Science Program, Lakeland High School, February 8, 2016

Saint Francis of Assisi Soup Kitchen, 2013-14

“Graceful Stumbling: The Human Journey in *The Hobbit*,” International Institute for Culture, Phil., PA, Jan. 4, 2013

“Expansion of the Heart”, Saint Francis Xavier Church, Philadelphia, PA, October 7, 2012

“Hope and Desire: Pope B. XVI and C.S. Lewis”, St. Peter’s Church, Wellsboro, PA, June 8, 2011

“Beauty, Justice, and the Catholic Tradition”, St. Peter’s Church, Wellsboro, PA, June 21, 2010

Coach, East Scranton Baseball, Scranton, PA, Summer 2010-2012

“Becoming ‘One Flesh’ in St. Paul”, Year of St. Paul lectures, Diocese of Scranton, Sep. 23, 2008; June 10, 2009

HONORS & AWARDS

Excellence in Advancing Interdisciplinary Study, Provost’s Faculty Enhancement Award, April 7, 2017 (\$1,500.00)

Final Lecture, Honors Program, University of Scranton, May 24, 2017

Final Lecture, Honors Program, University of Scranton, May 25, 2016

Final Lecture, Honors Program, University of Scranton, May 29, 2015

Student Fellow, Centre for Christianity & Culture, Regent’s Park College, Oxford: 2002-06

Graduate Studentship (Theology), University of Oxford: 2002-05

President, Graduate Society, Regent’s Park College, University of Oxford: 2002-03

MEMBERSHIP IN LEARNED SOCIETIES

African Studies Association

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Participant, *Discernment, Engagement, Reflection*, Lilly Fellow Program in Humanities and the Arts National Conference, Loyola Marymount University, Oct. 27-29, 2017

Attendee, *General Education and Assessment: Design Thinking for Student Learning*, AAC&U Conference, Phoenix, AZ, Feb. 23-Feb. 25, 2017

Attendee, *Imagining Africa at the Center: Bridging Scholarship, Policy, and Representation in African Studies*, African Studies Association 59th Annual Meeting, Washington, DC, Dec. 1-3, 2016

Participant, *Semper Reformanda: Faith, Science, Art & Culture*, Lilly Fellow Program in Humanities and the Arts National Conference, Augsburg College, Minneapolis, MN, Oct. 14-16, 2-16

Attendee, *Academic Quality: Driving Assessment and Accreditation*, Drexel University, Sept. 7-9, 2016

Participant, *Created for Creativity: Music, Culture and Faith*, Lilly Fellows Program in Humanities and the Arts National Conference, Belmont University, Nashville, TN Oct. 9-11, 2015

Attendee, *Assessment for Student Success: Building Academic Innovation & Renewal*, Drexel University, Sept. 9-11, 2015

Attendee, "Advanced Topics in Data Visualization," TDWI Conference, Boston, MA, July 29, 2015

Participant, *Let the Great World Spin: Roundtable Discussion with Colum McCann*, Schemel Forum and Royden B. Davis Award Committee, Oct. 18, 2014

Participant, *Teaching as Vocation in the Jesuit Tradition*, August 11-15, 2014, University of Scranton, Jesuit Center

Participant, *A Future City, A New Creation: Equal on All Sides*, Lilly Fellows Program in Humanities and the Arts, National Conference, Sept. 26-28, 2014, Xavier University of Louisiana, New Orleans

Discussant, *Engaged Lives*, First-Year Seminar Workshop, NetVUE funded, University of Scranton, May 27-29, 2014

Attendee, *Christian Wisdom Meets Modernity*, University of Notre Dame, Dec. 2013

Provost Book Discussion, *Not For Profit: Why Democracy Needs the Humanities*, Martha Nussbaum, Oct. 2013

Grant-Writing Workshop, Office of Research Services, May 2013

Discussant at *The Human Journey: Integrating a Faith-Based Education in the 21st Century*, April 15-18, 2012; Sacred Heart University's Lilly Network Exchange

Participant in *The Intellectual Tasks of the New Evangelization*, Sep. 15-17, 2011, Washington, D.C., run by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

Clavius Fund Participant: 2010 (History of Christianity); 2011 (Ways of Knowing); 2014 (Aesthetics: Plato)

Participant in Departmental travel to Israel through Judaic Studies, June 14-23, 2011

Participant at *Schemel Forum* roundtable, *Israel/Palestine: A Tale of Two Truths*, w/ David N. Myers, Professor of Jewish History, UCLA, University of Scranton, October 5, 2009

Participant at *The Catholic Intellectual Tradition*, Jan 5-9, 2009, University of Scranton

Discussant at *Beauty: What's Justice Got To Do With It?* National Lilly Fellows Network Conference, Oct 10-12, 2008, Seattle Pacific University

Participant at *Education for Justice: The Case for Sustainability*, May 22-23, June 6, 2008 & May 28, 2009 (Scranton)

Participant at *The Analogy of Being: Invention of the Anti-Christ Or the Wisdom of God*, April 4- 6, 2008, Dominican House of Studies, Washington, DC

Participant at *Civic Engagement* roundtable, University of Scranton, March 12, 2008

Participant at The University of Scranton summer seminar entitled *The Nature of a Catholic and Jesuit University in the Twenty-First Century*, Aug. 13-17, 2007

REFERENCES

Available upon request