

Curriculum Vitae
JAMES W. WATTS
501 Hall of Languages
Syracuse University
Syracuse, NY 13244-1170

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Syracuse University, Syracuse, New York, 1999-present

Professor of Religion, 2007-present

Chair of the Department of Religion, 2009-2015

William P. Tolley Teaching Professor in the Humanities 2011-2013

Associate Professor of Religion, 1999-2007

Ruhr Universität Bochum, Käte Hamburger Kolleg, *Visiting Research Fellow*, 2015-16

Hastings College, Hastings, Nebraska, 1993-1999

Associate Professor of Religion, 1998-1999

Assistant Professor of Religion, 1993-1998

* *Hastings College Faculty Achievement Award* (1993-94) “in recognition of unusually significant and meritorious achievement in teaching”

Stetson University, DeLand, Florida, 1990-1992

Adjunct Professor of Religion, 1991-1992

Visiting Assistant Professor of Religion, 1990-1991

Also *Adjunct* at Barry University School of Adult and Continuing Education, and Valencia Community College, Orlando, FL, 1992-1993

Yale Divinity School, New Haven, Connecticut, 1987-1990

Acting Instructor, 1989

Teaching Fellow, 1987-1990

EDUCATION

Ph.D. (Hebrew Bible/Old Testament), Yale University, New Haven, CT, 1990

* Dissertation: “Psalms in Narrative Contexts of the Hebrew Bible”

M.Div., Th.M. (New Testament), Southern Seminary, Louisville, KY, 1985, 1986

* Thesis: “A Critique of Interpretations of the Remnant Theme in the New Testament”

B.A. (Philosophy), Pomona College, Claremont, CA, 1982 Magna Cum Laude

* Phi Beta Kappa, 1982

Post-Doctoral Seminar: *National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Seminar*, “Law and Religion in the Bible,” Cornell University, 1992

Areas of Specialization: literature and religion of the Hebrew Bible, especially the Pentateuch, sacrifice, law and narrative genres; ancient Near Eastern religious rhetoric; ritual theory; comparative scriptures; iconic books; classical Hebrew.

Courses taught

undergraduate:

REL/JSP 114 The Bible in History, Culture and religion
REL/JSP 215 The Jewish Bible / Christian Old Testament
REL 301 Ancient Near Eastern Religions and Cultures
REL/JSP 307 Second Temple Judaism
REL/JSP 311 The Bible as Literature
REL/JSP 416 The Torah/Pentateuch
CAS 101 Freshman Forum
URP 450 Undergraduate Research Program

graduate:

REL 607 Ancient Religious Rhetoric
REL 611 The Idea of Scripture
REL/JSP 616 The Torah/Pentateuch
REL/ANT 619 Ritual Theory and Religious Practice
REL 620 Textual Scripts in the Study of Religion: Iconic and Performative Texts
REL 622 Sacrifice

guest teaching:

The Idea of Scripture, at Seoul National University, June 20-24, 2011

Dissertations Directed:

Jason Larson (faculty, the Hotchkiss School), “The Gospels as Ritualized Sites of Memory in Late Ancient Imperial Culture,” PhD 2011.
Dorina Miller Parmenter (Associate Professor, Spalding University), “The Iconic Book: The Image of the Christian Bible in Myth and Ritual,” PhD 2009.
Yohan Yoo (Associate Professor, Seoul National University), “A Theory of Purity from the Perspective of Comparative Religion,” PhD 2005.
George Heyman (Associate Professor, Saint Barnard’s School of Theology), “The Power of Sacrifices: Roman and Christian Discourses in Conflict,” PhD 2004.
Diana Walsh Pasulka (Associate Professor, UNC Wilmington), “The Aesthetics of Nostalgia: The Return of the Real in Postmodern Christian Discourse,” PhD 2003.

Professional Activities:

Founder and Secretary-Treasurer of SCRIPT—the Society for Comparative Research on Iconic and Performative Texts (2010-)
Member, steering committee, SBL’s Pentateuch Section (2017-)
Member, Editorial Board of *Postscripts, The Journal of Sacred Texts and Contemporary Worlds* (2010-)
Member, Editorial Board of the Library of Hebrew Bible/Old Testament Studies, Bloomsbury - T. & T. Clark (2013-)
Member, Society of Biblical Literature (1987-)
Member, American Academy of Religion (1999-)
Co-Translator for Exodus, Common English Bible (2011)

President (2013-14) of the Eastern International Region of the American Academy of Religion, and Host of its Annual Meeting at Syracuse University, May 3-4, 2014.

Research Associate, Institute for Signifying Scriptures, Claremont, CA (2005-2011)

Member, steering committee, SBL's Biblical Law Section (2005-2011)

Chair/Co-Chair of the SBL's Pentateuch Section steering committee (1998-2003)

Associate Old Testament Editor, Word Biblical Commentary series (1997-2011)

Member, Bethsaida Excavations Project Board of Directors (1996-99).

Occasional editorial consultant for *Vetus Testamentum*, *Journal of Hebrew Scriptures*, *History of Religions*, *Entangled Religions*, Oxford University Press, Cambridge University Press, University of Notre Dame Press, Johns Hopkins University Press, Bloomsbury T. & T. Clark, Continuum Publishers, and the Society of Biblical Literature.

Occasional grant consultant for the American Council of Learned Societies, Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft, the Swiss National Science Foundation, the Austrian Science Fund, and the John Templeton Foundation.

PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Books (published):

Leviticus 1-10, Historical Commentary on the Old Testament, Louvain: Peeters, 2013.

Ritual and Rhetoric in Leviticus: From Sacrifice to Scripture, New York: Cambridge University Press, 2007 (paperback 2012).

Reading Law: The Rhetorical Shaping of the Pentateuch, The Biblical Seminar 59, Sheffield: Sheffield Academic Press, 1999.

Psalms and Story: Inset Hymns in Hebrew Narrative, JSOT Supplement Series 139, Sheffield: JSOT Press, 1992 (paperback 2009).

Books (in progress):

Understanding the Pentateuch as a Scripture, Wiley Blackwell, 2017.

Leviticus 11-27, Historical Commentary on the Old Testament, Louvain: Peeters.

Edited Collections:

(Editor) *Iconic Books and Texts* (London: Equinox, 2013) = 22 articles from *Postscripts* 2 and 6.

(Guest Editor) *Postscripts: The Journal of Sacred Texts and Contemporary Worlds* 6/1-3 (2010), thematic triple-issue (published in 2012).

(Guest Editor) *Postscripts: The Journal of Sacred Texts and Contemporary Worlds* 2/2-3 (2006), thematic double-issue (published in 2008).

(Editor) *Persia and Torah: The Theory of Imperial Authorization of the Pentateuch* (Symposium Series; Atlanta: Society of Biblical Literature, 2001).

(Editor, with Corrine Patton and Steven Cook) *The Whirlwind: Essays on Job, Hermeneutics and Theology in Memory of Jane Morse* (JSOT Supplement Series 336; London: Sheffield Academic Press, 2001).

(Editor, with Paul R. House) *Forming Prophetic Literature: Essays on Isaiah and the Twelve in Honor of John D. W. Watts*, JSOT Supplement Series 235, Sheffield: Sheffield Academic Press, 1996.

Chapters in Books:

“Ritualizing Iconic Jewish Texts,” in *The Oxford Handbook of Ritual and Worship in the Bible* ed. Sam Balentine; Oxford: Oxford University Press, forthcoming.

“The Pentateuch as Torah” for *The Oxford Handbook of the Pentateuch*, ed. Joel Baden and Christophe Nihan; Oxford: Oxford University Press, forthcoming.

“From Ark of the Covenant to Torah Scroll: Ritualizing Israel’s Iconic Texts,” in *Ritual Innovation in the Hebrew Bible and Early Judaism* (ed. Nathan MacDonald, BZAW 468, Berlin: De Gruyter, 2016), 21-34.

“Narrative, Lists, Rhetoric, Ritual and the Pentateuch as a Scripture,” in *The Formation of the Pentateuch: Bridging the Academic Cultures of Europe, Israel, and North America* (ed. Jan Geertz et al, Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 2016), 1135-45.

“Writing Commentary as Ritual and as Discovery,” in *The Genre of Biblical Commentary: Essays in Honor of John E. Hartley* (ed. William Yarchin and Timothy Finlay; Wipf & Stock, 2015), 40-53.

“The Historical and Literary Contexts of the Sin and Guilt Offerings,” in *Text, Time, and Temple: Literary, Historical and Ritual Studies in Leviticus*, ed. Francis Landy, Leigh M. Trevaskis, Bryan Bibb, Sheffield: Phoenix, 2015, 85-93. Reprinted from Watts, *Leviticus 1-10* (Leuven: Peeters, 2013), 309-316.

“The Political and Legal Uses of Scripture,” in *The New Cambridge History of the Bible*, vol. 1, ed. Joachim Schaper and James Carleton Paget, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2013, 345-64.

“Using Ezra’s Time as a Methodological Pivot for Understanding the Rhetoric and Functions of the Pentateuch,” in *The Pentateuch: International Perspectives on Current Research*, ed. T. B. Dozeman, K. Schmid and B. J. Schwarz; Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 2011, 489-506.

“The Rhetoric of Sacrifice,” in *Ritual and Metaphor: Sacrifice in the Bible*, ed. C. A. Eberhart, Atlanta: SBL, 2011, 3-16 = Watts, *Ritual and Rhetoric in Leviticus*, 2007, 173-192.

“Disposing of Non-Disposable Texts,” in *The Death of Sacred Texts: Ritual Disposal and Renovation of Texts in the World Religions*, ed. Kristina Myrvold. Farnham: Ashgate, 2010, pp. 147-59.

“Legal Literature,” in *The New Interpreter’s One-Volume Commentary on the Bible*, Nashville: Abingdon, 2010, 953-55.

“Torah,” in *The New Interpreter’s Dictionary of the Bible*, vol. 5, Nashville: Abingdon, 2009, pp. 629-30.

“Ritual Rhetoric in Ancient Near Eastern Texts,” in *Ancient Non-Greek Rhetorics*, ed. Carol Lipson and Roberta Binckley, West Lafayette, IN: Parlor Press, 2009, pp. 39-66.

“Ritual Rhetoric in the Pentateuch: The Case of Leviticus 1-16,” in *The Books of Leviticus and Numbers*, ed. Thomas Römer, Bibliotheca Ephemeridum Theologicarum Lovaniensium, Leuven: Peeters, 2008, pp. 305-18.

“The Torah as the Rhetoric of Priesthood,” in *The Pentateuch as Torah: New Models for Understanding Its Promulgation and Acceptance*, ed. Gary Knoppers and Bernard M. Levinson. Winona Lake, IN: Eisenbrauns, 2007, pp. 319-332.

“Poetry,” in the *Dictionary of the Old Testament: Historical Books*, ed. Bill T. Arnold and H. G. M. Williamson, Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2005, pp. 798-802.

“Biblical Psalms Outside the Psalter,” in *The Book of Psalms: Composition and Reception*, ed. Peter W. Flint and Patrick D. Miller, Vetus Testamentum Supplement Series 99, Leiden: Brill, 2004, pp. 288-309.

“Story, List, Sanction: A Cross-Cultural Strategy of Ancient Persuasion,” in *Rhetoric Before and Beyond the Greeks*, ed. Carol Lipson and Roberta Binkley, Albany: SUNY Press, 2004, pp. 197-212.

“The Rhetoric of Ritual Instruction in Leviticus 1-7,” in *The Book of Leviticus: Composition and Reception*, ed. Rolf Rendtorff and Robert Kugler, Vetus Testamentum Supplement Series 93, Leiden: Brill, 2003, pp. 79-100.

“The Unreliable Narrator of Job,” in *The Whirlwind* (2001; see “edited collections” above), pp. 168-80.

(Translator) “Persian Imperial Authorization: A Summary” by Peter Frei, *Persia and Torah* (2001; see “edited collections” above), pp. 5-40.

“Psalmody in Prophecy: Habakkuk 3 in Context,” *Forming Prophetic Literature* (1996; see “edited collections” above), pp. 209-223.

“Leviticus,” *Mercer Commentary on the Bible*, ed. Watson E. Mills et al, Macon, GA: Mercer University Press, 1994, pp. 157-74.

“‘This Song’: Conspicuous Poetry in Hebrew Prose,” *Verse in Ancient Near Eastern Prose*, ed. Johannes C. de Moor and Wilfred G. E. Watson, AOAT 42, Neukirchen-Vluyn: Neukirchener Verlag, 1993, pp. 345-58.

Articles in Academic Journals:

“[Scripture's Indexical Touch](#),” *Postscripts* 8 (2012/2017), 173-184.

“Iconic Scriptures from Decalogue to Bible,” *Mémoires du livre / Studies in Book Culture* 6/2 (2015), online at <http://id.erudit.org/iderudit/1032712ar>, DOI: 10.7202/1032712ar.

“Scripturalization and the Aaronide Dynasties,” *Journal of Hebrew Scriptures* 13 (2013), online at http://www.jhsonline.org/Articles/article_186.pdf.

“Illustrating Leviticus: Art, Ritual and Politics,” *Biblical Reception* 2 (2013), 3-15.

“Ancient Iconic Texts and Scholarly Expertise,” *Postscripts* 6 (2010/ 2012), 331-44 = *Iconic Books and Texts* (ed. Watts; London: Equinox, 2013), 407-418.

“Aaron and the Golden Calf in the Rhetoric of the Pentateuch,” *Journal of Biblical Literature* 130 (2011): 417-30.

“Oracular Rhetoric,” *Perspectives in Religious Studies* 35 (2008): 185-95.

“The Three Dimensions of Scriptures,” *Postscripts* 2/2-3 (2006): 135-159 = *Iconic Books and Texts* (ed. Watts; London: Equinox, 2013), 9-32.

“‘Olah: The Rhetoric of Burnt Offerings,” *Vetus Testamentum*, 66/1 (2006): 125-137.

“Ritual Legitimacy and Scriptural Authority,” *Journal of Biblical Literature* 124/3 (2005): 401-417.

“Ten Commandments Monuments and the Rivalry of Iconic Texts,” *Journal of Religion & Society* 6 (2004): online at <http://moses.creighton.edu/JRS/2004/2004-13.html>

“Reader Identification and Alienation in the Legal Rhetoric of the Pentateuch,” *Biblical Interpretation* 7/1 (1999): 101-12.

“The Legal Characterization of Moses in the Rhetoric of the Pentateuch,” *Journal of Biblical Literature* 117 (1998): 415-26.

“The Legal Characterization of God in the Pentateuch,” *Hebrew Union College Annual* 67 (1996): 1-14.

“Public Readings and Pentateuchal Law,” *Vetus Testamentum* 45/4 (1995): 540-57.

“Rhetorical Strategy in the Composition of the Pentateuch,” *Journal for the Study of the Old Testament* 68 (1995): 3-22.

“Song and the Ancient Reader,” *Perspectives in Religious Studies* 22/2 (1995): 135-47.

“Text and Redaction in Jeremiah’s Oracles Against the Nations,” *Catholic Biblical Quarterly* 54 (1992): 432-47.

“Psalm 2 in the Context of Biblical Theology,” *Horizons in Biblical Theology* 12/1 (1990): 73-91.

“HNT: An Ugaritic Formula of Intercession,” *Ugarit-Forschungen* 21 (1989): 443-49.

“The Remnant Theme: A Survey of New Testament Research, 1921-1987,” *Perspectives in Religious Studies* 15/2 (1988): 109-129.

Non-refereed Articles, Case Studies, and Op-Eds:

Introduction and notes on Leviticus in *The Common English Study Bible* (Nashville: United Methodist Publishing, 2013), 155-199.

“Books as Relics in Dialogue with D. Max Moerman,” response for the Religion and Culture Web Forum of the Martin Marty Center at the University of Chicago (March 2011), online at <http://divinity.uchicago.edu/martycenter/publications/webforum>.

“Desecrating Scriptures,” a case study for the Luce Project in Religion, Media and International Relations at Syracuse University, 2009. Online at <http://sites.maxwell.syr.edu/luce/jameswatts.html>

“Scripture and Law: Where Ten Commandments will stand is in Supreme Court's hands.” Op-ed, *Detroit Free Press*, February 21, 2005.

“Narrative Time in Luke's Gospel,” *Paradigms* 1/2 (1985): 65-80.

Reviews of various books in biblical studies appeared in *Entangled Religions* (2016), the *Catholic Biblical Quarterly* (2016), *Reflective Religion* (2015), the *Review of Biblical Literature* (2012, 2008 twice, 2007 twice, 2006, 2003, 2000, 1999): online, *Journal of Hebrew Scriptures* (2012) online, *Journal of Biblical Literature* 120 (2001): 348, 118 (1999): 128-28, 116 (1997): 541-43, *Religion* 39 (2009), 300-302, *Interpretation* 61/1 (2007) 98, 61/4 (2007) 446-47, *Jewish Quarterly Review* 91/3-4 (2001): 526-29, *Theology Today* 55 (1999): 586-88, *Horizons in Biblical Theology* 24 (2002): 129-31, *Hebrew Studies* 37 (1996): 166-68, 39 (1998) 236-38, *Religious Studies Review* 23 (1997): 388, 24 (1998): 59, 283-284, 405, 25 (1999): 71, *Perspectives in Religious Studies* 23 (1996): 75-86, 22 (1995): 87-91, and *Paradigms* 1 (1985): 50-52, 118-20, 2 (1986): 136-37, 5 (1989): 68-69, 156-57.

Academic Papers:

- “Moses and Aaron: Genealogy and Priesthood” to the Levites and Priests section of the Society of Biblical Literature in San Antonio, Texas, November 19, 2016.
- “Incense in the Rituals and Rhetoric of the Aaronide Dynasties” to the Rituals in the Biblical World section of the Society of Biblical Literature in San Antonio, Texas, November 21, 2016.
- “Ritualizing the Size of Books,” at a workshop on miniature books at Linneaus University, Växjö, Sweden, October 5, 2016.
- “The Sense of Touching Scriptures,” at Ruhr University Bochum, Germany, September 9, 2016.
- “Ritualizing a Relic Book: The Hunterian Psalter” to the International Society for Religion, Literature and Culture in Glasgow, Scotland, September 10, 2016.
- “The Pentateuch’s Use of Enthymemic Ambiguity in the Political Context of the Persian Period,” to the European Association of Biblical Studies, Leuven, Belgium, July 19, 2016.
- “Incense in the Rhetoric and Political Economy of the Aaronide Dynasties” at the Center for Religious Studies, Ruhr University Bochum, Germany, June 15, 2016.
- “Text vs. Ritual in Leviticus” to the symposium on “Text and Ritual in the Pentateuch,” at the University of Lausanne, Switzerland, May 27, 2016.
- “Iconic Books in Visual Culture and Religion” at the Institute for Art History of the University of Zürich, Switzerland, May 12, 2016.
- “The Pentateuch’s Enthymeme: YHWH is King” to the Old Testament Research Seminar at Trinity College Dublin, Ireland, April 22, 2016.
- “Understanding the Pentateuch as a Scripture” to the Irish Biblical Studies Association, Dublin, Ireland, April 21, 2016.
- “Scripture’s Indexical Touch” to the symposium on “Seeing, Touching ... Sacred Texts” at the Center for Religious Studies, Ruhr University in Bochum, Germany, April 7, 2016.
- “Performing Scriptures and Translating Scriptures” to the workshop on “Media of Scriptures” at the Center for Religious Studies, Ruhr University, Bochum, Germany, December 11, 2015.
- “Ritualizing Possession of Iconic Books” at the World Congress of the International Association for the History of Religions in Erfurt, Germany, August 25, 2015.
- “Book Aniconism in Christian Tradition and Ritual Practice” on the SCRIPT panel at the Eastern International Meeting of the American Academy of Religion in Montreal, May 2, 2015.
- “Ritualizing the Iconic Dimension of the Torah” to the colloquium on “Matérialités religieuses” at the Musée du Quai Branly, Paris, France, January 22, 2015.
- “Shaping Biblical Law for Oral Performance and Aural Reception” to the Orality, Textuality, and the Formation of the Hebrew Bible Section of the Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA, November 24, 2014.
- “Writing a Commentary on Leviticus: Reflections on Methodology and Sacrificial Rituals” for the Sacrifice, Cult, and Atonement Section of the Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA, November 23, 2014.
- “Iconic Scriptures from Decalogue to Bible” for a panel by the Society for Comparative Research on Iconic and Performative Texts (SCRIPT) at the Annual Meeting of the Society for the History of Authorship, Reading and Publishing (SHARP), Antwerp, Belgium, September 17, 2014.
- “Pentateuchal Genres and the Torah as a Scripture,” for the international conference, The Pentateuch within Biblical Literature: Formation and Interaction, at the Israel Institute for Advanced Studies of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, May, 29, 2014.

- “Iconic Scriptures from Decalogue to Bible” for the Eastern International Region (EIR) of the American Academy of Religion (AAR), May 3, 2014.
- “Dynastic Priestly Rhetoric in Ezekiel, Zechariah and P,” presented to the Ezekiel section of the Society of Biblical Literature annual meeting in Baltimore, MD, November 26, 2013.
- “Replacing the Ark with the Scroll in Biblical Rituals of Textual Manipulation,” presented at the International Society of Biblical Literature meeting in St Andrews, Scotland, July 11, 2013.
- “Ritualizing Books in Three Dimensions,” presented to the SCRIPT panel at the Austrian Studies Association annual conference, Waterloo, ON, May 4, 2013.
- “The Rhetorical Role of Lists,” invited response on the theme, “Law as a Genre of Theology: The Medium, The Message, Developed in dialogue with James W. Watts’ 1999 book, *Reading Law*” of the Bible Law and Theology of Hebrew Scripture Sections of the Society of Biblical Literature, November 18, 2012.
- “Scripturalization and the Aaronide Dynasties,” presented to the Levites and Priests in History and Tradition Section of the Society of Biblical Literature, November 20, 2012.
- “Illuminating Leviticus: The Politics of Ritual and Reading in the Later Middle Ages,” presented to the International Society of Biblical Literature meeting in Amsterdam, the Netherlands, July 26, 2012.
- “Relic Texts,” presented to the Society for Comparative Research on Iconic and Performative Texts (SCRIPT) meeting with the Eastern International Region of the American Academy of Religion, Waterloo, Ontario, May 4, 2012.
- “The Historical and Literary Contexts of the Sin and Guilt Offerings,” presented to the Biblical Law section of the Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting, San Francisco, November 21, 2011.
- “Iconic Electronic Texts, or How Ritual Makes ‘Virtual’ Texts Material,” presented to the Society for Comparative Research on Iconic and Performative Texts (SCRIPT), Syracuse, NY, May 6, 2011, and invited for the Religion and Media Workshop of the American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting in San Francisco, November 18, 2011.
- “Iconic and Ritual Texts,” presented to the Lillian Goldman Scholars Working Group on the Jewish Book at the Center for Jewish History, New York, February 11, 2011.
- “Scripturalization of Torah in the Persian Period,” for Orality, Textuality, and the Formation of the Hebrew Bible Section of the Society of Biblical Literature, Atlanta, November 18-20, 2010.
- “Ancient Iconic Texts and Scholarly Expertise,” Iconic Books Symposium, October 1-3, 2010, at Syracuse University.
- “Books Anyone Can Use,” presented to the annual conference of the Society for the History of Authorship, Reading and Publishing (SHARP), Helsinki, Finland, 17–21 August 2010.
- “Illuminating Leviticus: Politics of Reading and Ritual in the Later Middle Ages,” History conference on “Passions and Transgressions from Late Antiquity to the Renaissance,” Syracuse University, April 16, 2010, and to the Society of Biblical Literature International meeting, Amsterdam, July 26, 2012.
- “Using Ezra’s Time as a Methodological Pivot for Understanding the Rhetoric and Functions of the Pentateuch,” invited paper presented to the Pentateuch Symposium at the University of Zürich, January 11, 2010.
- “The Rhetorical Function of Exodus 32-34 in the Pentateuch,” presented to the Biblical Law Section of the Society of Biblical Literature, New Orleans, LA, November 23, 2009.

- “Setting an Agenda for Studying Iconic Books and Texts,” Opening Address to the Second Iconic Books Symposium, Hamilton College, Clinton, NY, September 4, 2009.
- “Performing the Torah: The Rhetorical Function of the Pentateuch in the Second Temple Period,” presented to the Performance Criticism Consultation of the Society of Biblical Literature meeting in Boston, MA, November 23, 2008.
- “Ritual Rhetoric in Ancient Near Eastern Texts,” presented to the International Society of Biblical Literature meeting in Auckland, New Zealand, July 7, 2008.
- “The Idea of Sacrifice,” presented to the Consultation on Sacrifice, Ritual and Atonement of the Society of Biblical Literature meeting in San Diego, CA, November 21, 2007.
- “The Rhetoric of Atonement,” presented to the International Society of Biblical Literature meeting in Vienna, Austria, July 26, 2007.
- “The Rhetoric of Ritual Narrative,” presented to the Pentateuch Section of the Society of Biblical Literature meeting in Washington, DC, November 21, 2006.
- “The Rhetorical and Ritual Contexts of Biblical Law,” invited for presentation at the American Society for Legal History meeting in Baltimore, MD, November 18, 2006.
- “The Rhetorical Role of Ritual in the Torah,” invited major paper for the Colloquium Biblicum Lovaniense, Leuven, Belgium, August 2, 2006.
- “The Torah as the Rhetoric of Hierocracy,” presented to the International Society of Biblical Literature meeting in Edinburgh, Scotland, July 3, 2006.
- “The Three Dimensions of Scriptures,” presented to the Eastern International Region of the American Academy of Religion, Quebec City, Quebec, May 6, 2006
- “The Rhetoric of Sin, Guilt and Sacrifice in Leviticus 4-5,” presented to the Biblical Law Section of the Society of Biblical Literature, November 22, 2005.
- “The Iconography of Ritual Tablets and Scrolls in Antiquity,” presented to the Eastern International Region of the American Academy of Religion, Montreal, Quebec, May 7, 2005.
- “Iconic Bibles: The Power of the Image of the Text,” and “A Book in the Hand is Worth Two in Heaven,” Staley endowed invited lectures at Lees-McRae College (NC), Sept. 20-21, 2004.
- “The ‘*Olah* in Rhetoric and Ritual,” presented to the International Society of Biblical Literature Meeting in Gröningen, The Netherlands, July 28, 2004.
- “Ritual Legitimacy and Scriptural Authority,” presented to a joint session of the Ritual Studies Section of the American Academy of Religion and the Pentateuch Section of the Society of Biblical Literature, Atlanta, November 24, 2003.
- “Ritual Text and Ritual Interpretation” presented to the International Society of Biblical Literature Meeting in Cambridge, England, July 21, 2003.
- “Sacrifice, Ritual and Rhetoric” presented to the Eastern International Region of the American Academy of Religion in Erie, Pennsylvania, March 21, 2003.
- “Biblical Psalms Outside the Psalter,” invited paper for panel of the Hebrew Poetry Section of the Society of Biblical Literature, Toronto, November 23, 2002.
- “Story-List-Sanction: A Strategy of Ancient and Modern Persuasion,” presented to the Indian Society of Philosophy and Religion, Calcutta, India, July 30, 2002.
- “The Iconic Book,” presented to the Eastern International Region of the American Academy of Religion in Ottawa, Canada, April 26, 2002.
- “Milgrom Among Theorists of Ritual,” invited paper for panel of the Pentateuch Section of the Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting in Denver, November 19, 2001.

- “Rhetoric of Ritual Instruction in Leviticus 1-7,” International Society of Biblical Literature Meeting in Rome, Italy, July 9-11, 2001.
- “The Unreliable Narrator of Job”, Wisdom and Cognate Literature Section of the Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting in Nashville, November 18, 2000.
- “The Pentateuch’s Rhetoric of Hierarchy in Historical Context”, invited paper for panel on Current Research in the Pentateuch, Society of Biblical Literature Southeastern Regional Meeting in Chapel Hill, March 13, 1999.
- “Trouble Reading Scripture,” Invited Faculty Lecture at Hastings College, October 2, 1998.
- “Reader Identification and Alienation in the Legal Rhetoric of the Pentateuch,” Society of Biblical Literature Rocky Mountains/Great Plains Regional Meeting in Omaha, NE, March 21, 1998.
- “The Legal Characterization of Moses in the Rhetoric of the Pentateuch,” Society of Biblical Literature Central States Regional Meeting in Kansas City, April 7, 1997.
- “The Legal Characterization of God in the Pentateuch,” Pentateuch Section of the Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting in New Orleans, November 25, 1996.
- “Psalmsody in Prophecy: Habakkuk 3 in Context,” Society of Biblical Literature Rocky Mountains/Great Plains Regional Meeting in Denver, April 26, 1996.
- “Rhetorical Strategy in the Composition of the Pentateuch,” Society of Biblical Literature Rocky Mountains/Great Plains Regional Meeting in Denver, April 28, 1995.
- “‘This Song’: Conspicuous Poetry in Hebrew Prose,” invited paper for symposium on “Verse in Prose” in Kampen, The Netherlands, June 1-3, 1993.
- “The Sequential Reading of Pentateuchal Law Codes,” Society of Biblical Literature Southeastern Regional Meeting in Atlanta, March 13, 1992.
- “Song and the Ancient Reader: Generic Conventions Governing Psalms in Narrative Contexts,” Biblical Criticism and Literary Criticism Section, Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting in Kansas City, November 26, 1991; ninth Conrad-Shelby invited Lecture at Brewton-Parker College, May 5, 1992.

Grants Received:

- 2011 (co-PI): Wabash Center for Teaching Theology & Religion: \$15,000 for Graduate Teaching Alumni Conference, September 2011.
- 2010: E-Fund Planning Grant from the College of Arts & Sciences: \$13,900 for “Putting Iconic Books on the Web”
- 2009: Gladys Kriebel Delmas Foundation, New York: \$7,500 to host third interdisciplinary symposium on iconic books in 2010.
- 2009: Ray Smith Symposium, Syracuse University: \$10,000 to host third interdisciplinary symposium on iconic books.
- 2008: Gladys Kriebel Delmas Foundation, New York: \$8,000 to host second interdisciplinary symposium on iconic books in 2009.
- 2007: Ray Smith Symposium, Syracuse University: \$15,000 to host first interdisciplinary symposium on iconic books.

Other Academic Service at Syracuse University:

Affiliate faculty member of the Ph.D. program in Composition & Cultural Rhetoric, SU
 Served on Ph.D. dissertation defense committees in the Department of Religion for Airen Hall (2011), Alyssa Beal (2010), Shannon Grimes (2006), John Caldwell (2003) and Ayse

Tuzlak (2001); and in the Department of English and Textual Studies for Jon Singleton (2010)

Served on M.A. Thesis defense committee in the Department of Religion for Rebecca Moody (2010); and in the Department of Communication and Rhetorical Studies, VPA (2007).

Chaired Dissertation Defense Committee in the Department of Philosophy (2007) and M.A. Thesis Defense Committees in the Department of Religion (2011).

Set comprehensive exams for Department of Religion *Ph.D. students*: Dana Barnea (2014), Dan Moseson (2014), Emma Brodeur (2013), Ashley Cake (2012), Holly White (2009), Daniel Cheiffer (2009), Jason Larson (2007), Daniel Miller (2007), Shawn Krause-Loner (2006), Yohan Yoo (2004), George Heyman (2003), Alyssa Beall (2003), Shannon Grimes (2003), Neal Magee (2001), Dori Miller Parmenter (2000), Steven Benko (2000); and *M.A. students*: Soonki Lee (2007), Jason Lewis (2006), Cordell Waldron (2006), Donovan Schaeffer (2005), Kurt Lami (2004), Samuel Snyder (2003) and Yohan Yoo (2002).

University and College service:

Chair, SU Department of Religion (2009-2015) which includes *ex officio* membership in the department's Executive Committee, Graduate Committee, Undergraduate Committee, search committees, and on the Humanities Council of the College of Arts and Sciences

Chair, the Humanities Council of the College of Arts and Sciences (2010-12)

Co-Chair, Ad Hoc Faculty Committee on Arts & Sciences and Maxwell School relations (2010)

Director of Graduate Studies, SU Dep. of Religion (2006-09)

Chair, search committee for Director of Judaic Studies Program (2009)

Chair, SU College of Arts & Sciences Curriculum Committee (2003-05, *member* 2002-05)

President, Theta Chi Beta (Theta Alpha Kappa) religion honorary society (2002-06, 2010-15)

Undergraduate Coordinator and Major Adviser, SU Dep. of Religion (2000-04)

Wrote Department of Religion's *Initiative for the Study of Religion and Society* (2001).

Chair of the Religion and Society Program Advisory Committee and Major Adviser, SU Arts & Sciences (2003-04)

Freshman Forum Leader and Adviser (2003-04, 2008-09)

Member, Department of Religion Executive Committee (2000-04, 2006-9)

Member, SU Dep. of Religion search committees for faculty position in Buddhist traditions (2006-2007), for the Watson-Ledden Endowed Chair (1999-2001), for senior faculty position in philosophy of religion (2002-03)

Member, Renée Crown Honors Program Core Faculty (2004-07)

Member, SU Humanities Center Planning Committee (2005)

Member, SU University Senate (2001-2003, 2006-2008, 2012-2015) and Committees on Instruction (2001-2003), Academic Freedom, Tenure and Professional Ethics (2006-2008), and Academic Affairs (2012-2015)

Member, SU College of Arts & Sciences Search Committee for Humanities Center Director (2015)

Member, SU College of Arts & Sciences Tenure and Promotion Committee (2008-2009, 2012-2013)

Member, SU College of Arts & Sciences Admissions Committee (2000-2001)

Member, Hastings College faculty committees: communications/forensics search committee (1994), library committee (1995-97), national speakers committee (1995-99, *chair* 1998-

99), chaplain search committee (1998), faculty senate & curriculum committee (1998-99).