

# David Allen Michelson

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## Current Appointments

### Vanderbilt University

Associate Professor of the History of Christianity, Divinity School (2018-present)  
Associate Professor, Graduate Department of Religion (2018-present)  
Associate Professor, Department of Classical and Mediterranean Studies (2019-present)

## Past Appointments

### Vanderbilt University

Assistant Professor of the History of Christianity, Divinity School (2012-2018)  
Assistant Professor, Graduate Department of Religion (2012-2018)  
Secondary Faculty, Program in Classical and Mediterranean Studies (2016-2019)  
Secondary Faculty, Department of History (2015-2021)

### University of Alabama (2008-2012)

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

### Villanova University (Fall 2007)

Visiting Assistant Professor, Augustine and Culture Seminar Program

### Princeton University (2006-2008)

Acting Associate Director, Center for the Study of Religion

## Degrees

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

**Dissertation:** "Orthodoxy and the Spiritual Struggle in the World of Philoxenos of Mabbug (470-523)" **Committee:** Peter Brown (Advisor), Averil Cameron, Slobodan Ćurčić, and Maria Mavroudi

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

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

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

**Thesis:** "*La perpétuité de la foi: The Appeal to Eastern Christianity of Jean Claude's Eucharistic Polemics, Viewed in its French Reformation and Counter Reformation Contexts*" **Committee:** John Woodbridge (Advisor), Scott Manetsch, Dale Van Kley

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

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

## Further Education

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

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

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

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

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

## Honors and Awards

Chancellor's Faculty Fellow, Vanderbilt University, 2019-2021

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

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

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

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

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

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

Antony and Isabelle Raubitschek Award, American School of Classical Studies at Athens, 2004  
Fellow, Butler College, Princeton University, 2003-2004

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

## Monographs

David A. Michelson, *The Library of Paradise: A History of Contemplative Reading in the Monasteries of the Church of the East*, Oxford Early Christian Studies (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2022). <https://doi.org/10.1093/oso/9780198836247.001.0001>

Reviews: [Vigilae Christianae \(2024\)](#), [Review of Biblical Literature \(2023\)](#), [Abstraca Iranica \(2023\)](#), [Theological Librarianship \(2023\)](#)

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

<https://doi.org/10.1093/acprof:oso/9780198722960.001.0001>

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

## Co-Edited Volumes

Matteo Poiani and David A. Michelson, eds. *Évagre en Orient*. Edited volume with essays in French and English, in preparation. Editors at Brepols Publishers have invited us to submit the volume to their series “Eastern Christian Cultures in Contact.” We anticipate submission of the volume for peer review in 2024.

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

<http://hdl.handle.net/1803/16324>

Review: [Journal of Eastern Christian Studies \(2023\)](#)

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

<https://hugoye.bethmardutho.org/volume/13>

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

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

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

David A. Michelson and William L. Potter, eds. *Syriac Manuscripts in the British Library: A New Digital Edition of Wright’s Catalogue* (Syriaca.org, 2024). <https://bl.syriac.uk> Status: Beta public release.

Joseph L. Rife, Phillip I. Lieberman, and David A. Michelson, eds. *Caesarea Maritima: A Collection of Testimonia*, technical editors David A. Michelson and William L. Potter (Caesarea City and Port Exploration Project, 2021). <https://caesarea-maritima.org/index.html> Status: Beta public release.

David A. Michelson and Nathan P. Gibson, eds., *The New Handbook of Syriac Literature* (Syriaca.org: The Syriac Reference Portal, forthcoming). <http://syriaca.org/nhsl> Status: Status: Beta public release.

David A. Michelson, Jeanne-Nicole Mellon Saint-Laurent, Nathan P. Gibson, and Daniel L. Schwartz, eds., *The Syriac Biographical Dictionary* (Syriaca.org: The Syriac Reference Portal, forthcoming). <http://syriaca.org/persons> Status: Beta public release.

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

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

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

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

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

## Digital Humanities Scholarship (Technical Editor)

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

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

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

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

## Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

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

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

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

David A. Michelson, "Mixed Up by Time and Chance? Using Digital Methods to Re-Orient the Syriac Religious Literature of Late Antiquity," *Journal of Religion, Media and Digital Culture* 5.1 (2016), 136-82. <https://doi.org/10.1163/21659214-90000073>

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

## Peer-Reviewed Book Chapters

- David A. Michelson, "The Rise and Contribution of Monasteries and Monasticism," in *The Rowman & Littlefield Handbook of Christianity in the Middle East*, edited by Mitri Raheb and Mark A. Lamport, 375-386 (Lanham, Md.: Rowman & Littlefield, 2021).
- David A. Michelson, "The Hidden Excellence of Lectio Divina: The Ambiguities of Reading as an Elite Marker in East Syrian Monasticism of the Sixth and Seventh Centuries," in *Virtuosos of Faith: Monks, Nuns, Canons, and Friars as Elites of Medieval Culture*, edited by Gert Melville and James D. Mixson, 285-302. (Zurich: LIT Verlag, 2020).
- Petre Guran and David A. Michelson, "Introduction: Dynamics of Faith and Community around the Mediterranean," in *Faith and Community around the Mediterranean: In Honor of Peter R. L. Brown*, edited by Petre Guran and David A. Michelson, 11-18, *Études Byzantines et Post Byzantines*, new series, vol. I (VIII) (Bucharest: Académie roumaine; Heidelberg: Herlo Verlag UG, 2019 [2020]). <http://hdl.handle.net/1803/16324>
- David A. Michelson, "'Salutary Vertigo': Peter R.L. Brown's Impact on the Historiography of Christianity," in *Faith and Community around the Mediterranean: In Honor of Peter R. L. Brown*, edited by Petre Guran and David A. Michelson, 45-70, *Études Byzantines et Post Byzantines*, new series, vol. I (VIII) (Bucharest: Académie roumaine; Heidelberg: Herlo Verlag UG, 2019 [2020]).
- David A. Michelson and Ian Mladjov, "Diachronic Maps of Syriac Cultures and their Geographic Contexts," in *The Syriac World*, edited by Daniel King, xxvii-xxxiii, and maps 1-14 (New York: Routledge, 2019). <http://hdl.handle.net/1803/16426>
- David A. Michelson and Will Potter, "Index of Maps," in *The Syriac World*, edited by Daniel King, 824-834 (New York: Routledge, 2019).
- Daniel King and David A. Michelson, "Online Resources for the Study of the Syriac World," in *The Syriac World*, edited by Daniel King, 814-823 (New York: Routledge, 2019).
- David A. Michelson, "Syriaca.org as a Test Case for Digitally Re-Sorting the Ancient World," in Paul Dilley, Claire Clivaz, David Hamidovic, eds., *Ancient Worlds in Digital Culture*, Digital Biblical Studies, Vol. I, 59-85. Leiden: Brill, 2016.  
[http://booksandjournals.brillonline.com/content/books/b9789004325234\\_005](http://booksandjournals.brillonline.com/content/books/b9789004325234_005)
- David A. Michelson, "Philoxenos of Mabbug: A Cappadocian Theologian on the Banks of the Euphrates?" in J. Kreiner and H. Reimitz, *Motions of Late Antiquity: Religion, Politics, and Society from Constantine to Charlemagne*, 151-174. Turnhout: Brepols, 2016.  
<http://www.brepolonline.net/doi/abs/10.1484/M.CELAMA-EB.5.108243>
- David A. Michelson, "Philoxenos of Mabbug and the Simplicity of Evagrian Gnosis: Competing Uses of Evagrius in Early Sixth-Century Polemical Theology," in Robin Darling Young and Joel Kalvesmaki, eds., *Evagrius and His Legacy*, 175-205. South Bend: University of Notre Dame Press, 2016. <http://undpress.nd.edu/books/P03217>
- David A. Michelson, "'It is not the custom of our Syriac language...': Reconsidering the Role of Translation in the Polemics of Philoxenos of Mabbug," in David Brakke, Deborah Deliyannis, and Edward Watts, eds. *Shifting Cultural Frontiers in Late Antiquity*, 7-22. Burlington, Vt.: Ashgate, 2012.

## Festschrift Chapter

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

## Peer-Reviewed Published Conference Proceedings

Nathan P. Gibson and David A. Michelson, “Modeling a Body of Literature in TEI: The New Handbook of Syriac Literature/Bibliotheca Hagiographica Syriaca Electronica,” Conference Poster Presentation presented at the TEI Conference and Members’ Meeting 2016, Vienna, Austria, September 29, 2016. <http://tei2016.acdh.oeaw.ac.at/poster-gallery>

Nathan P. Gibson, Winona Salesky, and David A. Michelson, “Encoding Western and Non-Western Names for Ancient Syriac Authors,” in *Proceedings of the Symposium on Cultural Heritage Markup*. Balisage Series on Markup Technologies, vol. 16 (2015), n.p. doi:10.4242/BalisageVol16.Gibson01  
<http://www.balisage.net/Proceedings/vol16/html/Gibson01/BalisageVol16-Gibson01.html>

## Published Conference Proceedings

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

## Encyclopedia Articles

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

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

## Book Reviews

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

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

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

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

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

## Popular Publications

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## Exhibits

Charlotte Lew, Anna Michelson, Joel Michelson, Paul Michelson, and David A. Michelson curators, "The Fall of Communism in Romania in 1989: Gleaning from the Trash Heap of History," a physical exhibit hosted by The Divinity Library, Vanderbilt University, 2019-2021.

Charlotte Lew, Stephanie Fulbright, Julia Liden, and David A. Michelson, curators, "Syriac: Preserving an Endangered World Culture," a physical exhibit and online gallery hosted by The Divinity Library, Vanderbilt University, 2016-2017 and by the Vanderbilt Fine Arts Gallery, Vanderbilt University, 2018. <http://gallery.library.vanderbilt.edu/exhibits/syriaca>

Jessica Lacher-Feldman, David A. Michelson, and Paul E. Michelson curators, "The Fall of the Iron Curtain: Reflections on the Romanian 1989," a physical exhibit hosted by Gorgias Library, University of Alabama, 2009-2010.

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

\$3000 Global Engagement Travel Grant, Vice Provost Office for Arts, Libraries & Global Engagement, Vanderbilt University, 2024, to support participation in the 19th International Conference on Patristic Studies, Oxford University.

\$3000 Provost Faculty Immersion Grant, Office of Experiential Learning and Immersion Vanderbilt, Vanderbilt University, 2024, to support the mentoring of undergraduate research.

\$110,516 from the National Endowment for the Humanities, "Linking Texts and Data from the Medieval Middle East: Next-Generation Discovery and Access Tools for Syriac Cultural Heritage (Awarded April 18, 2023, Grant Number PW-290483-23)" Prime Award PI: Daniel L. Schwartz (Texas A&M University). Subaward: David Michelson. Other Sub-PI: Jeanne-Nicole Mellon Saint-Laurent (Marquette University), 36-month project, 2023-2025.

\$29,826 Immersion Scholar Research Grant, College of Arts and Sciences, Vanderbilt University, 2023-2025 to fund an undergraduate research lab in conjunction with the National Endowment for the Humanities award, "Linking Texts and Data from the Medieval Middle East: Next-Generation Discovery and Access Tools for Syriac Cultural Heritage.

## Grant Funded Research continued

- \$109,631.22 Seeding Success Grant from Office of the Vice Provost for Research & Innovation, Vanderbilt University, 2023-2025 as seed funding for the creation of a research tool for analyzing manuscripts written in Syriac. The grant will foster collaboration and data sharing through a new manuscript discovery tool (a "union catalogue") hosted at Vanderbilt.
- \$4997.30 Research IT Voucher Program, Office of the Vice Provost for Research, Research IT Service, Vanderbilt University, 2023. Co-PI with Profs. Tracy Miller and Joseph Rife for support of Srophé App development.
- \$80,000 Chancellor's Faculty Fellow, Office of the Provost, Vanderbilt University, 2019-2021.
- \$10,000 Mellon Faculty Fellow in Digital Humanities, Digital Humanities Center, Vanderbilt University, 2019-2020.
- Collaborator on "Digital Cultural Heritage Research Cluster", \$200,000 Trans-Institutional Program grant, Office of the Provost, Vanderbilt University, 2018-2020. PIs: Lynn Ramey and Tracy Miller.
- Collaborator on "Archaeology of Diversity and Adaptation at a Mediterranean Port," Discovery Grant Program, Office of the Provost, Vanderbilt University, 2018-2020. PI: Joseph Rife.
- \$6000 Research Scholar Grant, Vanderbilt University for the preparation of Petre Guran and David A. Michelson, eds. *Faith and Community around the Mediterranean. In Honor of Peter R. L. Brown*, 2018
- \$18,000 "A Preliminary Syriac, Aramaic and Arabic Lexical and Toponymical Survey of Beth Qatraye (Qatar National Research Fund Project number: NPRP9-002-6-001)," University of Qatar, 2016-2020. PI: Haya Al Thani.
- \$25,618 Research Scholar Grant, Vanderbilt University, 12-month project, "The Library of Eden: A History of Syriac Monastic Readers," 2016-2017.
- \$5,000 Provost's Research Studio, Professional Development Grant, Vanderbilt University, 2016-2017.
- \$7200 (in student support) plus 196 hours of staff time from the Vanderbilt Libraries to fund a Library Dean's Fellowship for a graduate student to work on Syriaca.org under my direction. Faculty Mentor: David Michelson. Fellow: Alex Ayriss. Library Mentors: Suellen Stringer-Hye, Clifford Anderson, Chris Benda. 4-month project, 2016.
- \$118,979 from the National Endowment for the Humanities, "Syriaca.org: Advanced Reference Resources for Middle Eastern History (Grant number: PW-228209-15)" PI: Daniel L. Schwartz (Texas A&M University). Subaward: David Michelson. Other investigators: Nathan Gibson (Vanderbilt University, Postdoc), Jeanne-Nicole Mellon Saint-Laurent (Marquette University), part-time staff. 36-month project, 2014-2017.
- \$249,771 from the National Endowment for the Humanities, "*The Syriac Reference Portal: New Access to Sources for the History of the Middle East* (Grant number: PW-51161-12)" PI: David Michelson. Other investigators: Daniel L. Schwartz (Texas A&M University), Jeanne-Nicole Mellon Saint-Laurent (Marquette University), part-time staff. 48-month project, 2012-2016.
- \$248,742 from the International Balzan Prize Foundation, "Figures in a Landscape: The Geography and Hagiography of Syriac Christianity." Subaward passed through Princeton University. Prime Award PI: Peter Brown. Subaward PI: David Michelson. Other investigators: Jeanne-Nicole Mellon Saint-Laurent (Marquette University), George Kiraz (Beth Mardutho Institute), part-time staff. 48-month project, 2012-2016.

### **Grant Funded Research continued**

- \$4424 as a faculty member for the “XQuery Summer Institute: Advancing XML-Based Scholarship from Representation to Discovery (Grant number: HT-50080-13)” I was included as a core faculty member on this Institutes for Advanced Topics in the Digital Humanities Grant made to Vanderbilt from the National Endowment for the Humanities’ Office of Digital Humanities in 2013. The principal investigator was Dr. Clifford Anderson, Vanderbilt University. My duties included consultation on the curriculum, serving on the steering committee, and teaching some sessions of the institute.
- \$2500 from the Southeastern Conference Faculty Travel Grant Program, Vanderbilt University, Faculty Travel Award, 2013. Travel grant (shared with Robin Jensen and Betsey Robinson) for collaborative work with scholars of Late Antiquity at other SEC Institutions.
- \$133,848 from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, “New Tools and Standards for the Study of Syriac Manuscripts,” Subaward of a Mellon Foundation Award through Princeton University. Prime Award PI: Peter Brown. Subaward PI: David Michelson. Other investigators: George Kiraz (Beth Mardutho Institute), Robert Ayding (University of Alabama), part-time staff. 30-month project, 2010-2012.
- \$5000 from the Office of Research, University of Alabama, Research Grants Committee Award, 2011. Grant to complete research on a monograph on Philoxenos of Mabbug.
- \$5000 (in equipment) from the College of Arts & Sciences, University of Alabama, Tablet Computing Initiative, 2011. Grant of equipment to teach pilot a class where all students used a tablet computer for in-class collaboration.

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

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

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

- Sinai Manuscripts Digital Library. I serve as a technical advisor to this project at UCLA.  
<https://sinaimanuscripts.library.ucla.edu/>
- Southeastern Conference Faculty Travel Grant, Texas A&M University awarded Daniel L. Schwartz a \$1700 Faculty Travel Award in 2020. This award was made to promote collaboration between faculty members in the Southeastern Conference. I served as the host institution faculty member in the application for this grant. The award funded travel for Prof. Schwartz to come to Vanderbilt for collaborative grant writing.
- “Faith and Community around the Mediterranean (300-1500): A Conference Honoring the Work of Peter R.L. Brown.” I served as the co-organizer of a conference funded with the institutional and financial support of New Europe College’s Institute for Advanced Studies, Bucharest, Romania. The principal investigator was Petre Guran (New Europe College) who secured funding and had the idea to hold the conference. The conference was held in March, 2016 in Bucharest and Iasi, Romania.
- “BAM: Big Ancient Mediterranean.” I was included as a consultant on this Digital Humanities Start-Up Grant (CFDA Number: 45.169) funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities’ Office of Digital Humanities in September, 2015. The principal investigators are Profs. Sarah Bond and Paul Dilley, University of Iowa.

## Grant Funded Research (Consultant) continued

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

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

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

## Invited Presentations

“Digital Trends and Resources for the Study of Syriac,” presentation to students in the Syriac Summer School hosted by Harvard University’s Dumbarton Oaks and St. John’s University’s Hill Museum and Manuscript Library, July 23, 2024

“Contemplative Reading in the Church of the East,” presentation to Prof. Maria Doerfler’s seminar RLST 640 “Intro to Syriac Christianity” at Yale University, April 8, 2024.

“Was There a Syriac Lectio Divina? The Development of Contemplative Reading in the Monasteries of the Church of the East (400-700 C.E.),” Committee for the Study of Late Antiquity and The Seeger Center for Hellenic Studies, Princeton University, February 8, 2024

“The Contribution of Mor Philoxenos to Eastern Christianity beyond the Syrian Orthodox Church,” Symposium in Commemoration of the 15th Centenary of Mor Philoxenos of Mabbug (d. 523), Syriac Orthodox Archdiocese for the Eastern United States & Beth Mardutho: The Syriac Institute, Paramus, N.J., December 2, 2023

“The Library of Paradise: A History of Contemplative Reading in the Monasteries of the Church of the East,” Early Christian and Late Antique Studies Reading Group, The University of Chicago, August 30, 2023

“Reading the Egyptian Fathers in Mesopotamia: Curricula for Contemplative Reading in the Church of the East,” Conference on Greek Sources of East-Syriac Mysticism: A Journey through Texts and Thought, Faculty of Theology and Religious Studies and the Louvain Centre for Eastern and Oriental Christianity, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, June 27, 2023

“The Library of Paradise: A History of Contemplative Reading in the Monasteries of the Church of the East,” The Late Antiquity Reading Group at Yale, Yale University, April 26, 2023

## Invited Presentations continued

- “Philoxenos of Mabbug: Life and Reputation in 1500-Year Perspective,” four lecture series as part of the Maronite Enrichment Days, The Maronite Seminary, Washington, D.C., April 19-20, 2023
- “Religious Echoes of Late Antique Caesarea in Syriac Sources,” Caesarea Maritima International Conference MMXXII, New York University, October 25, 2022
- “The Solitary Fathers’ Commentary: Ascetic Reading as an Evagrian Contemplative Practice in the Seventh-Century Church of the East,” *Évagre en Orient: Novae a(m)bitiones*, international colloquium at L’Université de Strasbourg, June 23, 2022
- “What did Syriac Christians Think They Were Doing When They ‘Read’ Their Scriptures?” presentation to Prof. Maria Doerfler’s seminar RLST 640 “Intro to Syriac Christianity” at Yale University, November 17, 2021.
- “Where They Were First Called ‘Christians’: Two Millennia of Christianity in the Middle East” Torrey Honors College, Biola University, November 4, 2021.
- “Linked Open Text Encoding: Serializing LOD from Syriac Datasets in TEI XML,” co-presentation with James Walters (Hill Museum and Manuscript Library) at ENCODE Project Conference “Bridging the Gap with Linked Open Data”, Universität Hamburg, Germany, May 25, 2021.
- Panelist, “Multilingualism, Translation, Directionality in Global Medieval DH,” panel organized by the Vanderbilt University Center for Digital Humanities and the Global Middle Ages Project, October 16, 2020, <http://globalmiddleages.org/content/panel-discussion-multilingualism-translation-directionality-global-medieval-dh>
- Graduate Fellows Seminar Presenter, “Scholarly Writing, Digital Humanities, and Grant Writing,” The Program in Theology and Practice, Graduate Department of Religion, Vanderbilt University, October 14, 2020
- “Teaching with TEI,” podcast conversation with Michelle Taylor and Clifford Anderson, Leading Line Podcast, Episode 63, September 2, 2019, <https://leadinglinespod.com/episodes/episode-63david-michelson-and-michelle-taylor/>
- “Official Launch of the Srophé App,” Cultural Heritage at Scale 2019, Vanderbilt University Libraries, Vanderbilt University, May 3, 2019, <https://srophe.app/>
- “Diligent Readers: Contemplative Reading Skill as Elite Demarcation in East Syrian Monasticism of the Sixth and Seventh Centuries,” Religious Life, Elites, & Medieval Culture,” The University of Alabama, in Partnership with the University of Dresden, October 19, 2018
- “Syriaca.org and Perseids” presented with Daniel L. Schwartz and Nathan Gibson to the Perseids User Summit hosted by Tufts University, August 21, 2018
- “Syriaca.org and Distributed Data & Aggregation,” lightning talk as part of the National Endowment for the Humanities project “Integrating digital humanities into the web of scholarship with SHARE,” event held at Vanderbilt University, May 8, 2018
- “Linking Angels through the Cloud: Syriaca.org, A Short Introduction” presented with Daniel L. Schwartz at “LinkSyr Workshop: Linked Data and Syriac Sources,” Eep Talstra Centre for Bible and Computer, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, The Netherlands, March, 12–13, 2018.
- “Qeryana: Reading Scraps from the Dung Heap of History,” Union Theological Seminary, February 28, 2018.

## Invited Presentations continued

- "*The Syriac Gazetteer and The New Handbook of Syriac Literature: Syriaca.org, A Short Introduction*" presented at "Linking Manuscripts from the Coptic, Ethiopian and Syriac domain," Hiob Ludolf Centre for Ethiopian Studies, Universität Hamburg, Germany, February, 23, 2018.
- "Data from Manuscripts" presented at "Summer School of Digital Humanities: Distant Reading - Potentials and Applications," Universität Heidelberg, Heidelberg, Germany, September 24, 2017
- "The Syriaca.org Data Model and Modules" presented at "Mapping Ancient Lives & Social Networks: A Digital Workshop," Marquette University, Milwaukee, May 23, 2017
- "Syriaca.org: Bridging the digital gap between libraries, specialists, and the public" presented at "Linking the Big Ancient Mediterranean Conference," University of Iowa, Iowa City, June 7, 2016
- "Syriaca.org: Meeting Digital Infrastructure Needs for Endangered Cultural Heritage" presented at "Cultural Heritage at Scale Symposium," Vanderbilt University, Nashville, June 2, 2016
- "From Periphery to Horizon: Peter R. L. Brown's Contribution to the Historiography of Christianity" presented at "Faith and Community around the Mediterranean in Late Antiquity and the Middle Ages," Alexandru Ioan Cuza University, Iași, Romania, March 10, 2016
- Respondent to a review panel on *The Practical Christology of Philoxenos of Mabbug*, participants: Mark DelCogliano, University of Saint Thomas, Peter Martens, Saint Louis University, Robin Darling Young, Catholic University of America, Andrew Radde-Gallwitz, University of Notre Dame, Robert Kitchen, Knox-Metropolitan United Church, Jeffrey Wickes, Saint Louis University; Development of Early Christian Theology Unit, Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting, Atlanta, Ga., November 23, 2015
- "Syriaca.org: New Digital Tools for the Study of the Medieval Middle East (Syriaca.org: новые цифровые средства для исследования средневекового Ближнего Востока)" presented *in absentia* with Daniel L. Schwartz at the International Conference on Scholarship and Practice: Russia and the Historical Experience of World Civilizations, Vladimir State University, Vladimir, Russia, November 13, 2015
- "Diligent and Angelic Readers: The Material Role of Texts in the Syriac Monastic Tradition," Regional Late Antiquity Consortium (ReLACs), University of Tennessee, Knoxville, October 23, 2015
- "Doing Digital Humanities in Theological Libraries," pre-recorded video interview included in presentation by Clifford Anderson, Christopher P. Benda, and Eileen Crawford. 2015 annual meeting of the American Theological Library Association Annual Meeting, Denver, Colorado, June 18, 2015
- "Nineveh No More: Cultural Genocide in Contemporary Iraq and Syria," Spring Faculty Assembly, Vanderbilt University, March 31, 2015
- "Xquery for Humanists," (with Clifford Anderson, Vanderbilt University), part of the Programming 4 Humanists course sponsored by the Initiative for Digital Humanities, Media, and Culture at Texas A&M University, March 27, 2015
- "Syriaca.org: Preserving the Lost History of Christianity in Syria and Iraq," Initiative for Digital Humanities, Media, and Culture, Texas A&M University, March 26, 2015

## Invited Presentations continued

- "Syriaca.org: Linking Data from the Syriac Heritage," Hugoye Symposium IV: Syriac and the Digital Humanities, Rutgers University, March 6, 2015
- "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 Prof. Jennifer Hevelone-Harper's 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.

## Peer-Reviewed Conference Presentations

- “Using the *Apophthegmata* to Teach Psalmody: Examples from the Syriac Paradise Traditions,” 19<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Patristic Studies, Oxford University, August 9, 2024
- “Re-Writing Wright: Introducing A New Digital Edition of Wright's Catalogue (1870-1872),” with William Potter and student research group, Conference on Syriac Studies in the UK: Past, Present, Future, Durham University, March 22, 2024.
- “Separating Monastic Psalmody from Antiochene Exegesis: New Evidence on Prayer, Contemplation, and ‘Spiritual Interpretation’ in the Seventh-Century Church of the East,” Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting, Denver, Co., November 21, 2022.
- “Was There a Syriac Lectio Divina? The Development of Contemplative Reading as an Ascetic Practice in the Church of the East,” XIII Symposium Syriacum et XIe Congrès d'études arabes chrétiennes, L'Institut national des langues et civilisations orientales (Inalco), Paris, July 7, 2022
- “Presenting Syriac Data Models: The Syriaca.org Catalogue Model for the British Library Collection” as part of “Working Group for Linked Manuscript Descriptions,” at Linked Pasts VII Symposium, Ghent University Centre for Digital Humanities and CLARIAH Flanders Open Humanities Service Infrastructure Consortium, December 16, 2021
- “Ascetic Reading in the Church of the East: Understanding Dadisho ‘ of Qatar's Method of Spiritual Interpretation,” 18th International Conference on Patristic Studies, Oxford University, August 22, 2019
- “*The Book of Psalms Abounds with Every Other Kind of Book*: Syriac Monastic Readers and the Divine Office,” presented at “Medieval Rites: Reading the Writing,” Yale University, New Haven, April 23, 2017
- “Syriaca.org: Frameworks for Digital Research in Syriac Studies” presented at Symposium Syriacum XII, Pontificio Istituto Orientale, Rome, Italy, August 20, 2016
- “Syriac Monastic Reading: The Material Role of Texts in the Syriac Evagrian Tradition from John the Solitary to Isaac of Nineveh,” Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting, Atlanta, Ga., November 22, 2015
- “Quid ergo Silicon Valley et Hierosolymis? Potential and Perils of the Digital Humanities for Patristic Studies,” XVII International Conference on Patristic Studies, Oxford University, August 11, 2015
- “Encoding Western and Non-Western Names for Ancient Syriac Authors” presented *in absentia* with Nathan P. Gibson, and Winona Salesky, Symposium on Cultural Heritage Markup, Washington, DC, August 10, 2015
- “‘To All Scribes Who May in the Future Encounter this Book...’ Digital Strategies for a Distant Reading of Syriac Literature,” Seventh North American Syriac Symposium, Catholic University of America, June 24, 2015
- “Syriaca.org,” Seventh North American Syriac Symposium, Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C., June 22, 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

## Peer-Reviewed Conference Presentations continued

- "The Syriac Gazetteer ([www.syriaca.org/geo](http://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 Justin 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](http://www.syriac.ua.edu)): A New Collaborative Resource for Byzantinists," 37<sup>th</sup> Byzantine Studies Conference, DePaul University, Chicago, Ill., October 21-23, 2011
- "*The Syriac Reference Portal*: New Digital Tools for Syriac Studies" 16<sup>th</sup> 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," 7<sup>th</sup> 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," 35<sup>th</sup> 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
- "Practice Leads to Theory: Orthodoxy and Spiritual Struggle in the World of Philoxenos of Mabbug (470-523)," 34<sup>th</sup> Byzantine Studies Conference, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, New Jersey, October 16-19, 2008

## Peer-Reviewed Conference Presentations continued

- “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,” 6<sup>th</sup> Syriac Conference, SEERI, Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam, India, September 8-16, 2006
- “Philoxenos of Mabbug on Doctrinal Conflict as a Devotional Practice,” 21<sup>st</sup> 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,” 31<sup>st</sup> 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),” 29<sup>th</sup> 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

## **Research Languages**

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

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

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

**Studied & Now Forgotten:** Classical Arabic, Classical Armenian, Classical Georgian & Biblical Hebrew

## **Teaching Experience**

**Vanderbilt University (2012-present, \*indicates new courses added to the catalog)**

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

Formation of Christian Traditions

Graduate Directed Readings: Syriac Scribes and Manuscripts\*

History of Early Christian Poetry\*

History of Early and Medieval Christianity\*

History of Global Christianities I

History of Syriac Christianity\*

Introduction to Classical Syriac

Introduction to Mediterranean Studies

Master of Divinity Degree Seminar and Project

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

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

**University of Alabama (2008-2012, \*indicates new courses added to the catalog)**

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, Spring 2008)**

The Roman World in Late Antiquity

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

Augustine and Culture Seminar

## **Teaching Experience continued**

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

The New Testament and Christian Origins  
Europe from Antiquity to 1700

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

World Civilizations I

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

Beginning French I & II

## **Research Supervision**

### **Vanderbilt University**

#### **Postdoctoral Scholars**

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

Nathan P. Gibson (Ph.D., Catholic University of America): *New Handbook of Syriac Literature* (2015-2017). Supervised remotely while research was conducted at Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität, Munich, Germany. Dr. Gibson is now Professor für Religionswissenschaft (Jüdisch-Islamische Beziehungen) at Goethe-Universität Frankfurt am Main, Germany. [https://www.uni-frankfurt.de/137634647/Prof\\_Dr\\_Nathan\\_P\\_Gibson](https://www.uni-frankfurt.de/137634647/Prof_Dr_Nathan_P_Gibson)

Thomas A. Carlson (Ph.D., Princeton University): *The Syriac Gazetteer* (2012-2014). Supervised remotely while research was conducted at Princeton University. Dr. Carlson is now Associate Professor of Middle Eastern History at Oklahoma State University. <https://history.okstate.edu/people/faculty/33-carlson-thomas-a>

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

Luis Serrano Lora, "Revealing a New World: Sacred Time, Space, and Authority in the Qur'an," in progress 2024

Tyler Culp, "Textual Confusion in the Manuscript: Tradition of Matthew's Parable of the Two Sons," in progress 2024

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

Mohammad Meerzaei, "The Kingdom of Imagination: Re-Imagining Iranian Islam in the Twentieth Century at the Intersection of Mysticism, Philosophy, and Politics of Identity," defended January 27, 2023, reader

Chun Luen Wu, "Monster Paradox: Wirkungsgeschichte of Behemoth and Leviathan in Light of Monster Theory," defended May 19, 2022, reader

Peter Miller, "Usual Labors and the Wealth of Philosophy: Syriac Monastic Education in the Fifth through Ninth Centuries," defended April 14, 2022, external reader for the University of Iowa

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

## **Research Supervision Vanderbilt University**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Luis Serrano Lora, September 19, 2024

Tyler Culp, February 21, 2023

Ethan Laster, April 8, 2022 (external examiner for St. Louis University)

Jonathan Baddley, May 20, 2021

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

Mohammad Meerzai, August 31, 2018

Susannah Larry, November 3, 2016

Douglas Clark, June 3, 2016

Mark Ellison, August 21, 2015

Jennifer Sylvan Alexander, December 18, 2013

Jennifer Awes Freeman, March 15, 2013

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

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

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

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

### **Th.M. Thesis Committees**

Jimin Lim, "A Study of Biblical Translation within Early Modern China with a Focus on Cultural Translation of the Gospels: *Shengjing Zhijie* (聖經直解)," 2024, second reader

## **Research Supervision Vanderbilt University**

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

Myra Morland, "Worship in a Post Pandemic World: The Bridge Between Virtual and In-person Worship," 2022, second reader  
William L. Potter, "Narsai's Homily on Job: A Digital Edition and Translation with Introduction," 2019, first reader  
Niall Alvarado, "Is the Serpent in the Garden Evil? A Re-examination of the Evidence," 2018, second reader  
Julia Liden, "Eikon: A Triple Encounter," 2018, first reader and advisor for exhibit  
Danielle Oxnam, "Creating our World: Theological Storytelling as a Democratizing Agent in Postmodernity," 2018, second reader  
Peter Miller, "Evagrius of Pontus and the Late Antique Demon: 'Alone Among the Thoughts,'" 2015, first reader  
Will Hunter, "Discernment of Spirits according to John Cassian," 2014, second reader

### **M.Div. Senior Project Committees**

Myra Moreland, Spring 2022, second reader  
Jeani Rice Cranford, Spring 2016, first reader  
Gabe Crooks, Spring 2016, first reader  
Brittany Hanlin, Spring 2016, first reader  
Shantell Hinton, Spring 2016, first reader  
Helen Kearney, Spring 2016, first reader  
Stuart Langely, Spring 2016, first reader  
Melanie Reitz, Spring 2016, first reader  
M.Div. Senior Project Committees continued  
Marian Pinson, Fall 2015, first reader  
Kayla Kotewall, Spring 2015, second reader

### **Field Education Supervision**

Mitchell Esswein (Princeton Theological Seminary), 2013-2014

### **Library Dean's Fellows Faculty Mentor**

Alex Ayris, "Linked Data from the Medieval Middle East," 2016

### **Research Staff Supervisor**

William L. Potter, Digital Curator, Syriaca.org, 2019-2024

### **Undergraduate Theses and Projects**

Roman Brasoveanu, "Some Remarks on Sobornicity and the Limits of the Church in the Russian Tradition," Russian Studies Senior Honors Thesis, Spring 2023

**Research Supervision continued**  
**Vanderbilt University**

**Undergraduate Theses and Projects**

Emma Claire Geitner, "*Locus Sanctus, Locus Tutus*: The Cloister as Radegund's Refuge in Merovingian Gaul", European Studies Senior Thesis, Spring 2021

**Cross-Disciplinary Undergraduate Supervision**

Robert Perry, "Analysis of the Locations of Monasteries in Syriac Culture," ANTH 326I Final Project, Fall 2018

**Vanderbilt Undergraduate Research Immersion Cohort Supervision**

Class of 2024

Alexys Ahn

Claire Chen

Kurt Urban

Ziyan Zhang

Class of 2025

Haelee Kim

Class of 2026

Andrew Draper

**University of Alabama**

**M.A. Examination Committee**

Timothy LaBarbera, 2012, first reader

**Undergraduate Supervision**

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

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

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

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

Undergraduate Supervision continued

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

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

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

## **Research Supervision continued**

### **University of Alabama**

#### **Undergraduate Supervision continued**

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

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

Blake Basset, Aramaic Font Rendering for the Mac OS X, Computer Based Honors Program, 2009-2010

Kyle Redding, Ancient Syriac Manuscript Preservation Project, Computer Based Honors Program, Fall 2009

Sarah E. Kelly, Early Biblical Manuscripts and a Comparison of Armenian Depictions of the Adoration of the Magi in Illuminated Gospels, International Honors Program, Fall 2008

## **Professional Development**

Oracle Cloud Expenses and Using the One Card Training for Vanderbilt Faculty and Staff, Vanderbilt University, March 3, 2024

Travel Embedded Courses Faculty Orientation Session, Office of Global Safety and Security, Vanderbilt University, February 23, 2024

Provost Faculty Immersion Grant Recipient Training Workshop, Office of Experiential Learning and Immersion Vanderbilt, February 16, 2024

Completed "Title IX Annual Training 2022-2023," Title IX Office, Vanderbilt University, December 2, 2022

Participant in Monthly Workshop of the Historical Middle East Data Alliance, organized by Nathan P. Gibson, Leibniz-Rechenzentrum der Bayerischen Akademie der Wissenschaften, November 23, 2021

Participant in "Towards Multilingually Enabled Digital Knowledge Infrastructures - A Survey Analysis," facilitated by Aliz Horvath, Cornelis van Lit, Cosima Wagner, David Joseph Wrisley, Language Acts and Worldmaking Project, King's College London, November 22, 2021

Participant in "ENCODE Conference on Multilingual and Multicultural Digital Infrastructures for Ancient Written Artefacts," Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, November 2, 2021

Participant in "Remote Teaching, Recording of Classes, and Intellectual Property," Seminar presented by Aaron Nisenson, American Association of University Professors and Chris Sinclair, University of Oregon, December 9, 2020

Participant in "Academic Leadership," seminar presented by Daniel Diermeier, Office of the Provost, Vanderbilt University, October 13, 2020

Participant in "Supporting Inclusion and Belonging During COVID-19 and Persistent Systemic Racism," Vanderbilt University, June 9, 2020

Participant in "Accessible Online Teaching," workshop presented by Aimi Hamraie, Office of the Provost, Vanderbilt University, May 13, 2020

Participant in Vanderbilt Institute for Digital Learning Working Group: "Enhancing Theological Education through Digital Learning," 2017-2018

## **Professional Development continued**

- “Pedagogical Mentoring for Diverse Institutional Contexts,” workshop presented by Richard F. Wilson and funded by The Wabash Center and Vanderbilt University, September 18, 2017
- Participant in mentorship program for junior faculty, Program for Career Development, College of Arts & Science, Vanderbilt University, 2015-2017
- “At-Risk for Faculty & Staff”, online training in student referral for mental health services, Vanderbilt University, October 20, 2016.
- 14-Day Writing Challenge, National Center for Faculty Development and Diversity and included as part of the Program for Career Development, College of Arts & Science, Vanderbilt University, November 9-22, 2015
- Center for Teaching consultation on the use of Blackboard, Vanderbilt University, Fall 2015
- Participated in listening circles on issues of race at Vanderbilt University, Vanderbilt Divinity School, January 8, 2015
- Attended retreat hosted by the North American Society of Early-Career Theologians at Mission San Luis Rey de Francia, November 20-21, 2014
- Managing International Projects and Collaborations, Faculty Development Seminar, Vanderbilt University, November 12, 2014
- Attended workshop on embodiment, trauma, power, and theological education facilitated by Dr. Marcia Mount Shoop, Vanderbilt Divinity School, November 6, 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

## **Professional Development continued**

## **Professional Development continued**

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

The Google Book Scanning Project, Lunch 'n Learn Information Technology Seminar presented by Trevor Dawes and Marie Wange-Connelly, Princeton University, May 7, 2008

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**

#### **Board of Trust**

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

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

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

## **University Service continued**

### **Vanderbilt University**

#### **Office of the Chancellor**

Humanities Advisory Committee, 2015-2016

#### **Office of the Provost**

Appellate Review Board, 2022-2024

Internal Awards Review Committee, 2022-2024

Vanderbilt Undergraduate Summer Research Program Review Committee, 2024

Global Strategy Faculty Advisory Committee, 2022-2023

Vanderbilt University Research Council, 2016-2021

Vanderbilt Electronic Research Administration Working Group, 2019-2021

Research IT Faculty Advisory Committee, 2018-2021

Digital Storage Solutions Sub-Committee Chair, 2018-2019

Research Scholar Grant Review Subcommittee, 2018

Data Science Visions Trans-Institutional Programs Working Group, 2017-2018

Copyright Task Force, 2014-2015

#### **Faculty Senate**

Senator, 2024-present

Strategic Planning & Academic Freedom Committee, 2024-present

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

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

Faculty Advisory Committee, 2018-2021

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

Lecture Committee, 2019-2021, 2022-2024

Steering Committee, 2016-2019

#### **Department of Religious Studies**

Faculty re-appointment reviewer, 2021, 2023

### **Divinity School**

#### **Divinity Curriculum Concentrations**

MANES: Mediterranean and Near Eastern Studies, convener, 2018-2021, 2022-present

Global Christianities and Inter-Religious Encounter, steering committee member, 2018-2021, convener, 2022-2023

#### **Academic Programs and Assessment Committee, 2013-2014, 2022-present**

ATS Self-Study Subcommittee 2013-2014, 2023-2024

D.Min. Subcommittee 2013-2014

**University Service continued**  
**Vanderbilt University**

**Divinity School**

**Other Service**

*Ad hoc* Inclusive Language Committee, 2024-present

Faculty representative on hiring interviews for Assistant Director of Admissions and Enrollment, 2024

Focus Group Participant, Study of Student Access Office and Inclusion on the Vanderbilt Campus, 2023

Faculty representative on hiring interviews for Assistant Director of Communications, 2023

Chair, Faculty Ad Hoc Review Committee for Reappointment, 2020, 2203, 2024

Student Orientation Presenter or Facilitator, 2013-2015, 2022

Faculty Public Health Ambassador, 2021

Honor Council, 2020-2021

Member, Faculty Ad Hoc Review Committee for Promotion, 2019

Faculty Committee on Personnel & Policy, 2017-2019

Faculty Working Group, "Enhancing Theological Education through Digital Learning," 2017-2018

Admissions Committee, 2014-2015, 2017-2018

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

Hebrew Bible Dual Search Committee, 2013-2014

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

**Graduate Department of Religion**

Historical Studies, Area Director, Graduate Policy and Admissions Committee, 2018-2019, 2022-2023

**Robert Penn Warren Center for the Humanities**

Co-Coordinator, Seminar on Religion and Culture in Late Antiquity, 2014-2015

Faculty Presenter, Mellon Institute for Early-Career Scholars in the Digital and Public Humanities, May 14, 2014

Co-organized a guest lecture with the Warren Center Seminar on Geographic Imaginations and the Spatial Humanities: Who (or What) is the 21st Century Audience for a Historical Gazetteer? by Dr. Thomas Elliott, NYU, March 21, 2014

**University Libraries**

Faculty Collaborator with the Digital Lab, 2023-present

Faculty representative on hiring interviews for Assistant Cloud Engineer, 2023

Faculty Advisor to Staff Search Committee, 2020

Faculty Mentor, Library Dean's Fellows Project, "Linked Open Data for the Medieval Middle East," Spring 2016

## **University Service continued**

### **Vanderbilt University**

#### **University Libraries**

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

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

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

#### **Vanderbilt Institute for Digital Learning**

Faculty Advisory Council, 2013-2015

### **University of Alabama**

Alabama Digital Humanities Center, Postdoctoral Search Committee Chair, 2011

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

History Department, Development Committee, 2010-2012

History Department, Technology Committee, 2010-2012

History Department, Textbook Selection Committee, 2008-2012

History Department, Graduate Committee, 2008-2012

History Department, Chinese History Search Committee, 2009-2010

History Department, Bankhead Advisory Committee, 2008-2010

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

University Libraries, Book Collecting Contest Judge, 2009, 2010

### **Princeton University**

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

Graduate History Association Officer Committee, 2003-2004

## **Professional Service to the Academy-at-Large**

Editorial Board Member, Syriac Treasures Series, Hidden Pearl Press, 2023-

Organized and co-taught an online digital humanities workshop “Syriac Manuscripts in the British Library: TEI XML Encoding for Manuscript Description” jointly hosted by Syriaca.org and The Digital Lab at Vanderbilt University, June 3-7, 2024.

Organized a book review panel: “Journeys of the Mind: A Book Panel in Honor of Peter R.L. Brown” with panelists Jelena Bogdanović, Vanderbilt University; Ariel López, Rhodes College; David Michelson, Vanderbilt University; Elizabeth Moodey, Vanderbilt University; Daniel Schwartz, Texas A&M University; and Peter Brown, Princeton University. Hosted by the Vanderbilt University Department of Classical and Mediterranean Studies Distinguished Lecture Series, Vanderbilt University, April 9, 2024

## Professional Service to the Academy-at-Large continued

- Organized an online author discussion of the book *Jephthah's Daughter, Sarah's Son: The Death of Children in Late Antiquity* with Prof. Maria Doerfler, Yale University as part of the course, DIV 6723 "History of Early Christian Poetry," Vanderbilt University, February 26, 2024
- Organized an online author discussion of the article "Prologues as Narthexes in Syriac Hagiography" with Prof. Jeanne-Nicole Mellon Saint-Laurent, Marquette University as part of the course, DIV 6723 "History of Early Christian Poetry," Vanderbilt University, February 19, 2024
- Speaker, Panel on Digital Projects Grant Funding, Digital Humanities and Media Studies Committee, Medieval Academy of America, November 2, 2023
- Panel Moderator, XIII Symposium Syriacum et Xle Congrès d'études arabes chrétiennes, L'Institut national des langues et civilisations orientales (Inalco), Paris, July 7, 2022
- Co-Organizer with Dawn Childress and Jeanne-Nicole Mellon Saint-Laurent, "Working Group for Linked Manuscript Descriptions," at Linked Pasts VII Symposium, Ghent University Centre for Digital Humanities and CLARIAH Flanders Open Humanities Service Infrastructure Consortium, December 15-16, 2021
- Organized an online guest lecture: "Engaging Ancient Christianity's Global Identity" by Prof. Vince Bantu, Fuller Seminary as part of the course, DIV 6711 "History of Syriac Christianity", Vanderbilt University, March 30, 2021
- Organized an online guest lecture: "Jovian Invocation during the Roman Empire: A Study using Network Analysis" by Prof. Zehavi Husser, Biola University as part of the programming of the Vanderbilt Center for Digital Humanities, Vanderbilt University, March 11, 2021
- Advisor to the organizing committee for the ReLACS (Regional Late Antiquity Consortium Southeast) online seminar. "Suspicion, Projection, Conviction: Making Enemies in Early Christianity", presented by Ellen Muehlberger, University of Missouri, November 2, 2020
- Panel Moderator, "Syriac Studies: New Conversations," ReLACS 2018 (Regional Late Antiquity Consortium Southeast), University of Tennessee, Knoxville, October 25, 2018
- Organized a guest lecture by Jelena Bogdanović, Iowa State University, "The Canopy and the Byzantine Church," April 14, 2018
- Chair of steering committee for 2017 meeting of ReLACS (Regional Late Antiquity Consortium Southeast), held at Vanderbilt University, October 19-20, 2017
- Steering Committee member, Syriac Literature and Interpretations of Sacred Text Program Unit, Society of Biblical Literature, 2015-2016
- Planning committee member, Mapping Ancient Lives & Social Networks: A Digital Workshop, Marquette University, Milwaukee, May 23, 2017
- Co-organizer of conference, Faith and Community around the Mediterranean (300-1500): A Conference Honoring the Work of Peter R.L. Brown, New Europe College, Bucharest, Romania, March 2016
- Panel Organizer, Computer Assisted Research in Syriac Studies, Symposium Syriacum XII, Pontificio Istituto Orientale, Rome, Italy, August 20, 2016
- Panel Organizer, Digital Humanities and the Study of Patristics, XVII International Conference on Patristic Studies, Oxford University, August 11, 2015
- Panel Organizer, Interpreting Texts, Producing and Performing Interpretations, Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting, Atlanta, Ga., November 22, 2015

## **Professional Service to the Academy-at-Large continued**

- Panel Organizer, Syriac Studies and Digital Research, Seventh North American Syriac Symposium, Catholic University of America, June 24, 2015
- Co-organized a guest lecture: "Zooniverse," by Prof. John Wallin, Middle Tennessee State University as part of the Warren Center Digital Humanities Seminar, Vanderbilt University, April 8, 2015
- Co-organized a guest lecture: Virgins, Mothers, and Martyrs: Women in Early Christian Africa by Kate Cooper, University of Manchester, March 27, 2015
- Symposium Organizer, Hugoye Symposium IV: Syriac and the Digital Humanities, Rutgers University, March 6, 2015
- Panel Organizer, The Digital Humanities and the Study of Christianity in Late Antiquity: Reflections on a Disciplinary Intersection, American Historical Association Annual Meeting, New York, January 2, 2015
- Panel Organizer, Introducing Syriaca.org: New Online Tools for the Study of Syriac Christianity, North American Patristics Society 2014 Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL, May 23, 2014.
- Listserv Moderator, [Late-Antiquity-Southeast@list.vanderbilt.edu](mailto:Late-Antiquity-Southeast@list.vanderbilt.edu), a regional e-mail list to connect scholars of late antiquity in the Southeastern US, 2014-2021
- Co-organized a guest lecture: Imagine the World is a Circle: Dorotheus of Gaza on God, Neighbor and Self by Prof. Roberta Bondi, *emerita* Emory University, March 12, 2014.
- Session Chair, Maps and Mapping: Cities and Regions, Medieval Academy of America 2013 Annual Meeting, Knoxville, Tenn., April 5, 2013.
- Panel organizer, Reading and Community in Syriac Christianity, American Society of Church History, New Orleans, January 5, 2013.
- XML workshop participant, Alabama Digital Humanities Initiative Group, University Libraries, University of Alabama, September 19, 2011
- Guest Presenter, Research as a Way of Life, Emerging Scholars Program, College of Arts & Sciences, University of Alabama, September 16, 2011
- Guest Presenter, Digital Humanities at the University of Alabama, University Libraries Leadership Board, University of Alabama, September 15, 2011
- 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 to the Academy-at-Large 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
- Organized Guest Presentation, [Papyri.info](#) and [Pleiades](#), Tom Elliott (Institute for the Study of the Ancient World, New York University), Alabama Digital Humanities Center, March 3, 2011
- Organized Guest Presentation, [Networking Names](#) and [VIAF: Virtual International Authority File](#), Karen Smith-Yoshimura (Program Officer, [OCLC](#) Research), Alabama Digital Humanities Center, February 24, 2011
- Organized Guest Panel Discussion, *Trends in the Digital Humanities* with Jennifer Howard, Jeff Young, Marc Perry (The Chronicle of Higher Education), Alabama Digital Humanities Center, February 3, 2011
- Beta Tester, Campus-wide pilots for Xythos Data Collaboration tool, University of Alabama, 2009-2010
- Panel Chair, *Syriac Literature and Interpretations of Sacred Text*, Society of Biblical Literature, Atlanta, Ga., November 20, 2010
- Exhibit Curator, "The Fall of the Iron Curtain: The Romanian 1989." Exhibit of items from personal collection gathered during the events of 1989 in Romania. (Curated with Paul Michelson, Margaret Peacock, Jessica Lacher-Feldman, and Kimberly Tucker.) Gorgas Library, University of Alabama, October-December, 2009
- Panelist, Graduate Parent Support Group Lunch Panel, *How to Survive Graduate School and Be a Successful Parent*, University of Alabama, October 22, 2009
- Symposium Co-organizer: *Reconsidering Philoxenos of Mabbug*, a symposium hosted by Center of Theological Inquiry and Princeton University, Princeton, NJ, May 3, 2008
- Panel Organizer: *Scripture, Liturgy, & Catechesis: Teaching Knowledge of the Divine in Syriac Christianity*, Villanova University 32nd International PMR Conference, Villanova, Pa., October 19, 2007
- Roundtable Co-organizer: *Religion and the Media*, Princeton University, Princeton, N.J., October, 16, 2007
- 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

## **Professional Service to the Academy-at-Large continued**

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

## **Professional Service: Reviewer**

L'Agence Nationale de la Recherche (France)  
Gorgias Press  
Hugoye: Journal of Syriac Studies  
Journal of the Text Encoding Initiative  
National Endowment for the Humanities  
Society of Biblical Literature Program Unit  
External tenure reviewer (various universities)

## **Community Outreach**

Guest Lecture "Jesus in Ancient Eyes" in HIST 1111: The Figure of Jesus in Western History, Prof. Joel Harrington, Vanderbilt University, September 17, 2024  
Podcast interview by Chris Benda, "David Michelson on *A History of Contemplative Reading in the Monasteries of the Church of the East*," *Authorial Intentions Podcast*, <https://hdl.handle.net/1803/18762>, April 11, 2024.  
Planned an information table (hosted by Soonmin Kwon) as part of the Digital Projects Showcase, Vanderbilt Libraries, March 20, 2024  
Hosted an information table at the Vanderbilt's Office of Immersion Resources Fall Research Match for Scientific Immersion and Mentorship, October 5, 2023  
"Lightning Presentation," Explorations in Research: Innovating through Social Science and Humanities, Office of Experiential Learning and Immersion, Vanderbilt University, February 22, 2023  
"A Hidden Life," group discussion for the Franklin Fellows Program, Franklin, Tenn., January 27, 2023  
"Christians in a Roman Landscape: Pilgrimage, Monasticism, Conversion," guest presentation to CLAS 1020: Introduction to Mediterranean Archaeology (Prof. Jelena Bogdanović), November 10, 2022  
"A Pilgrim City: The World of Early Christianity," ten-session class as part of the Franklin Fellows Program, Christ Community Church, Franklin, Tenn., Fall 2022  
Interview "New Working Group for Linked Manuscript Descriptions" with The Digital Orientalist Blog, February 2, 2022 <https://digitalorientalist.com/2022/02/22/new-working-group-for-linked-manuscript-descriptions-part-1/>  
Q&A about Byzantine Iconoclasm as part of National History Day at Meigs Academic Magnet School, Nashville, TN (Online with student and librarian from Ms. Becky Verner's seventh-grade class), December 16, 2021  
"The Library of Paradise: A History of Contemplative Reading in the Monasteries of the Church of the East," guest presentation to University Catholic, Nashville, Tenn., April 28, 2021

## Community Outreach continued

"A Hidden Life," group discussion for the Franklin Fellows Program, Franklin, Tenn., April 15, 2021

"A Pilgrim City: The World of Early Christianity," fifteen-session class as part of the Franklin Fellows Program, Christ Community Church, Franklin, Tenn., Fall 2020

"Who are the Christians of the Middle East? The Syrian Refugee Crisis in Context," guest presentation to First Presbyterian Church, Nashville, Tenn., December 15, 2019

"Who are the Christians of the Middle East? The Syrian Refugee Crisis in Context," guest presentation to Westminster Presbyterian Church, Nashville, Tenn., October 27, 2019

Interview with Shireen Korkzan, *National Catholic Reporter* about Syriaca.org, May 26, 2017  
<https://www.ncronline.org/blogs/ncr-today/campus-notebook-preserving-syriac-heritage-plea-daca-students>

Interview with Ruby Shao, *Daily Princetonian* about the life and work of Peter Brown, April 20, 2017 <http://www.dailyprincetonian.com/article/2017/04/peter-brown-late-antiquity>

Interview with Susannah Gold, Fondazione Internazionale Balzan "Premio", about Syriaca.org, March 29, 2017 <http://www.balzan.org/it/news/il-mondo-siriaco-ritrovato---intervista-eng>

"Christianity in the Second Century" guest presentation to Christ Presbyterian Church, Nashville, Tenn., January 29, 2017

Panel presentation on threats to the cultural heritage of Syria hosted by Pat Nolan of News Channel 5 at The Centennial Club, Nashville, Tenn., January 19, 2017

"Hearts Upward: Meeting Christ Through Liturgy and Contemplative Prayer," guest presentation to Hope Park Church, Nashville, Tenn., June 22, 2016

"Deeper and Wider: Discovering the Christian Tradition," guest presentation to Hope Park Church, Nashville, Tenn., June 15, 2016

"Who are the Christians of the Middle East?" guest presentation to Christ the King Catholic Church, Nashville, Tenn., April 17, 2016

"The End of Christianity in the Middle East?" guest presentation to Theology on Tap, Chattanooga, Tenn., April 12, 2016

"Who are the Christians of the Middle East?" guest presentation to Westminster Presbyterian Church, Nashville, Tenn., January 10, 2016

"A Liturgy for Evening Prayer," composed a short liturgy combining texts from Syriac and English prayer books for use during the meeting of the North American Society of Early-Career Theologians, Atlanta, Ga., November 19, 2015

Television appearance on Inside Politics hosted by Pat Nolan on News Channel 5+, Nashville, Tenn., to discuss Cultural Genocide in Syria and Iraq as part of a panel with Vanderbilt faculty members Richard McGregor and Betsey Robinson, Friday, October 2, 2015

"Who are the Christians of Iraq and Syria?" guest presentation to Siloam Family Health Center staff, Nashville, Tenn., July 8, 2015

"Ancient Middle Eastern Christians on Prayer and Spiritual Life," two session class at First Presbyterian Church, Nashville, Tenn., April 12 & 19, 2015

"Forgotten Christians of Asia, Africa and the Middle East," guest presentation to Shanan Co-op Middle School/High School class, Franklin, Tenn., April 16, 2015

## **Community Outreach continued**

- "A Lenten Rule of Life: Early Christians on Prayer and Spiritual Life," five session class at St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church, Nashville, Tenn., February 22, March 1, 8, 15, & 22, 2015
- "Who are the Christians of Iraq and Syria?" Community Breakfast series lecture, Vanderbilt Divinity School, February 5, 2015
- "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 Chapel Service, Vanderbilt Divinity School, November 28, 2012
- "Forgotten Christians of Asia, Africa and the Middle East," guest presentation to Global Religions Today seminar, Crawford House, Vanderbilt University, September 28, 2012
- Interview with Wayne Grayson, *Tuscaloosa News* on use of ipads in the classroom at UA, article published September 18, 2011
- Interview with Jasmine Cannon, *Crimson White* on Middle Eastern Studies at UA, article published March 10, 2011
- Interview with Amanda Sams, *Crimson White* on death of UA undergraduate History major Christopher Sherrill, article published February 25, 2011
- Interview with Bethany Blair, *Crimson White* on history of Valentine's Day and Saint Valentine, article published February 14, 2011

## **Professional Societies (membership dates vary, some are now inactive)**

- American Historical Association
- American Society of Church History
- Byzantine Studies Association of North America
- 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