## CHOON-LEONG SEOW, Ph. D.

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#### **Education**

Ph.D. Harvard University, 1984

Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations

M.Div. Princeton Theological Seminary, 1980

B.A. Pepperdine University, 1977

# **Teaching Experience**

Vanderbilt, Buffington Cupples Distinguished Professor of Hebrew Bible, August 2015-.

Henry Snyder Gehman Professor of Old Testament Language and Literature, Princeton Theological Seminary, 1995-June 2015.

Associate Professor of Old Testament, Princeton Theological Seminary, 1990-95.

Assistant Professor of Old Testament, Princeton Theological Seminary, 1984-90.

Instructor in Old Testament, Princeton Theological Seminary, 1983-84.

Lecturer in Intermediate Hebrew, Harvard Divinity School, Summer, 1982 and 1983.

Teaching Fellow in Hebrew Bible, Harvard University, 1981-83.

Teaching Assistant in Hebrew Exegesis, Princeton Theological Seminary, 1980.

Teaching Assistant in Biblical Hebrew, Princeton Theological Seminary, 1978-79.

Visiting Professor, Princeton University, Spring Semester, 2012.

Visiting Professor, Chinese University of Hong Kong, Divinity School, Summer, 2011, 2012.

Visiting Scholar, Harvard University, Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, Spring, 2011.

Visiting Professor, Jewish Theological Seminary of America, Spring, 2010.

Visiting Lecturer, Trinity Theological College, Singapore, Summer, 2010.

# Awards, Honors, Grants

National Endowment for the Humanity Faculty Research Fellowship, 2007-08.

Wabash Center for Teaching Theology and Religion Grant, 2000-02

Member, Institute of Advanced Study, Princeton, 1997-Present.

Henry Winters Luce III Fellowship, 1997-98.

Mitchell Dahood Memorial Prize in Northwest Semitic Philology, 1989.

NEH/ASOR Fellow, W. F. Albright Institute of Archaeological Research, Jerusalem, 1986-87.

Distinction in Comprehensive Exams, Harvard University, 1983.

First in Graduating Class, Princeton Theological Seminary, 1980.

George S. Green Fellowship (declined), Princeton Theological Seminary, 1980.

Graduate Fellowship (Best Thesis in Old Testament), Princeton Theological Seminary, 1980.

First in Graduating Class, Princeton Theological Seminary, 1987.

Henry Snyder Gehman Award in Old Testament, Princeton Theological Seminary, 1979.

Departmental Scholar, Pepperdine University, 1977.

## **Book Length Works**

Job 1-21. Illuminations. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2013.

Hebrew Inscriptions: Texts from the Biblical Period of the Monarchy. With F. W. Dobbs-Allsopp, J. J. M. Roberts, R. E. Whitaker. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2004.

Daniel. Westminster Bible Companion. Louisville: Westminster/John Knox, 2003.

"I & II Kings." In New Interpreter's Bible, Volume III. Nashville: Abingdon, 1999. 1-296.

Ecclesiastes: A New Translation with Introduction and Commentary. Anchor Bible 18c. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1997.

A Grammar for Biblical Hebrew. Second Edition. Nashville: Abingdon, 1995. First edition, 1987. Translated into Chinese in Taiwan (2001) and China (2007).

Myth, Drama, and the Politics of David's Dance. Harvard Semitic Monograph 46. Atlanta: Scholars Press, 1989.

#### **Editorial Work**

General Editor and Main Editor for Hebrew Bible/Old Testament, *Encyclopedia of the Bible and Its Reception*. 30 Volumes. Walter de Gruyter, 2002-2015.

General Editor, Illuminations Commentary, 2009-Present.

Editorial Board Member, Studies in the Bible and its Receotion Series, 2013-Present.

Editorial Board Member, Beihefte zur Zeitschrift für die alttestamentliche Wissenschaft, 2003-2011.

Editorial Board Member, Maarav, 2002-Present.

Editorial Board Member, Catholic Biblical Quarterly, 1998-2004.

Editorial Board Member, Journal of Biblical Literature, 1998-2004.

Editorial Board Member, Writings of the Ancient World Series (SBL), 1998-2004.

Editorial Board Member, Abingdon Old Testament Commentary Series, 1998-Present.

Editor, Homosexuality and Christian Community. Louisville: Westminster/John Knox, 1996.

### **Articles and Chapters in Books**

"Text Critical Notes on 4QJoba." Dead Sea Discoveries 22/2 (2015) (in pres).

"Ode to an Awesome Dragon: Rendering the Joban Leviathan in Chinese." *Festschrift in Honor of Professor Lo Lung Kwong*. Ed. Ying Fuk Tsang, et al. Hong Kong: Chinese Christian Literature Council, 2014. Pp. 271-87.

"Revisiting Behemoth." In *Biblical Essays in Honor of Daniel J. Harrington, SJ, and Richard J. Clifford, SJ.* Ed. Christopher Frechette, et al. New York: Paulist, 2014. Pp. 41-55.

"Exegesis; Footstool (HBOT.NT); Fraud; Friends, Friendship." In Encyclopedia of

- the Bible and Its Reception, Volumes 6-7. Ed. C. L. Seow et al. Berlin: de Gruyter, 2014
- "An Exquisitely Poetic Introduction to the Psalter." *Journal of Biblical Literature* 132 (2013) 275-93.
- "Descent into the Netherworld/Hell (HB/OT); Despair (ANE, HB/OT); Devil (Introduction); Directions, Cardinal (ANE, HB/OT; Dishan; Dishon; Door, Doors (HB/OT); Dreams and Dream Interpretation (ANE, HB/OT); Elizur, Emim, Ephod." In *Encyclopedia of the Bible and Its Reception*, Volumes 6-7. Ed. C. L. Seow *et al.* Berlin: de Gruyter, 2013.
- "History of Consequences: The Case of Gregory's *Moralia in Iob.*" *Hebrew Bible and Ancient Israel* 1 (2012) 368-87.
- "Bisitun; Boar; Breach; Breastplate; Brother, Brotherhood (ANE. HB/OT); Brown, Francis; Caper-berry; Cheran; Cherub (Person); Chesed (Person); Chesil; Chesulloth; Chezib (Person); Chezib (Place); Chidon; Chimcham; Chislon; Col-Hozeh; Cozbi; Coseba; Creeds (Introduction, HB/OT), Cun; Cush, the Benjaminite; Cyaxares; Cypress." In *Encyclopedia of the Bible and Its Reception*, Volumes 4-5. Ed. C. L. Seow *et al.* Berlin: de Gruyter, 2012.
- "Orthography, Textual Criticism, and the Poetry of Job." *Journal of Biblical Literature* 130 (2011) 63-85.
- "Elihu's Revelation." Theology Today 68 (2011) 253-71.
- "Putative Hapaxlegomena in Job." Pp. 145-82 in *Studien zur Hebräischen Bibel und ihrer Nachgeschichte Beiträge der 32. Internationalen Ökumenischen Konferenz der Hebräischlehrenden, Frankfurt a. M. 2009.* KUSATU 12.13. Ed. J. F. Diehl and M. Witte, Frankfurt: Spenner, 2011. 145-82.
- "Speaking Rightly: The God-Talks of Job and His Friends." *Trinity Theological Journal* 19 (2011) 70-72).
- "Athlete of God/Christ (HB/OT and Judaism); Balak (HB/OT); Beard (ANE, HB/OT, Greco-Roman Antiquity; Judaism; Christianity, Islam, Visual Arts); Beast (ANE, HB/OT, Judaism); Beer-Lahai-Roi; Beracah (Person); Bildad." In *Encyclopedia of the Bible and Its Reception*, Volumes 6-7. Ed. C. L. Seow *et al.* Berlin: de Gruyter, 2011.
- "Job." Pp. 421-22. In *Dictionary of Scriptures and Ethics*. Ed J. B. Green *et al*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2011.
- "Poetic Closures in Job." Journal for the Study of the Old Testament 34 (2010) 433-46.
- "Hope in Two Keys: Musical Impact and the Poetics of Job 14." Pp. 495-510 in *Congress Volume, Lubljana 2007*. VTSup 133. Ed. A. Lemaire. Leiden: Brill, 2010.
- "Reflections on the History of Consequences: The Case of Job." Pp. 561-86 in *Method Matters* (Fs. D. L. Petersen). Ed. J. LeMon and K. H. Richards. SBLRBS 56. Atlanta Scholars Press, 2009.
- "Adoniram; Ahijah (Ahiah, Ahio); Aldebaran; Angel of Death; Antimony; Armor (ANE, HB/OT)." In *Encyclopedia of the Bible and Its Reception*. Volumes 1-2. Ed. C. L. Seow *et al.* Berlin: de Gruyter, 2009.
- "Abir Ya<sup>c</sup>aqob; Adonai; Adoniram; Almighty; Ancient of Days; Bethel (Deity); El; El Bethel; El Elyon; El Elohe Israel; El Olam; El Shaddai; Eloah; Elohim; Fear of Isaac; God of the

- Covenant; God of Gods; Names of God; Gods, Goddesses; Hashem; Holy One; King of Kings; Lord of Heaven; Shield of Abraham; Yahweh." In *New Interpreter's Dictionary of the Bible*. Ed. K. D. Sakenfeld *et al.* 5 volumes. Nashville: Abingdon, 2006-2008.
- "The Social World of Ecclesiastes." Pp. 189-217 in *Scribes, Sages, and Seers: The Sage in the Eastern Mediterranean World*. Ed. L. G. Perdue. Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht, 2008.
- "Job's Wife, with Due Respect." Pp. 351-75 in *Das Buch Hiob und seine Interpretationen:*Beiträge zur Hiob-Symposium auf dem Monte Verità vom 14.-19. August 2005. Ed. T. Krüger ATANT 88. Zürich: Theologischer Verlag, 2007.
- "Job's Gō'ēl, Again." Pp. 689-709 in Gott und Mensch im Dialog: Festschrift für Otto Kaiser zum 80. Geburtstag. BZAW 345/II. Ed. M. Witte. Berlin: de Gruyter, 2004.
- "The Kingdom that Cannot be Impaired." Pp. 219-46 in *Studies on David and Zion: Essays in Honor of J. J. M. Roberts*. Ed. Bernard Batto and K. L. Roberts. Winona Lake: Eisenbrauns, 2004.
- "West Semitic Sources." Pp. 201-218 in *Prophets and Prophecy in the Ancient Near East*. Writings from the Ancient World 12. Ed. Peter Machinist. Atlanta: Scholars Press, 2003.
- "From Mountain to Mountain: The Reign of God in Daniel 2." Pp. 355-74 in *A God So Near:* Essays in Honor of Patrick D. Miller. Ed. Brent A. Strawn and Nancy Bowen. Winona Lake: Eisenbrauns, 2002.
- "Theology When Everything is Out of Control." *Interpretation* (July 2001) 237-49.
- "Job, Ecclesiastes." Pp. 726-74, 944-58. in *The New Oxford Annotated Bible*. Ed. M. D. Coogan *et al.* Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2001.
- "Ecclesiastes." Pp. 466-71 in *The Harper-Collins Bible Commentary*. Ed. J. L. Mays *et al.* New York: Harper, 2000.
- "Beyond Mortal Grasp: The Usage of *Hebel* in Ecclesiastes." *Australian Biblical Review* 48 (2000) 1-16.
- "Rehabilitating 'the Preacher': Qohelet's Theology in Context." Pp. 90-116 in *Papers of the 1997 Henry Winters Luce III Fellows in Theology*. Volume IV. ATS Series in Theological Scholarship and Research. Ed. M. Zienowitcz. Atlanta: The Association of Theological Schools, 2000.
- "Qohelet's Eschatological Poem." Journal of Biblical Literature 118/2 (1999) 209-34.
- "Beyond These, My Son, Beware!": The Epilogue of Qohelet Revisited." Pp. 125-41 in *Wisdom, You are My Sister (Festschrift for Roland E. Murphy*). Ed. M. L. Barré. Catholic Biblical Quarterly Monograph Series 29. Washington, D.C.: Catholic Biblical Association, 1997.
- "Dangerous Seductress or Elusive Lover? The 'Woman' of Ecclesiastes 7." Pp. 23-33 in *Women, Gender and Christian Community*. Ed. J. D. Douglass and J. F. Kay. Louisville: Westminster/John Knox, 1997.
- "Linguistic Evidence and the Dating of Qohelet." *Journal of Biblical Literature* 115/4 (1996) 643-666.
- "The Socioeconomic Context of 'the Preacher's' Hermeneutic." Princeton Seminary Bulletin 17/2

- N.S. (1996) 168-195.
- "Textual Orientation." Pp. 17-34 in *Homosexuality and Biblical Ethics: Listening to Scripture* Ed. R. Brawley. Louisville: Westminster/John Knox, 1996.
- "A Heterotextual Perspective." Pp. 14-27 in *Homosexuality and Christian Community*. Ed. C. L. Seow. Louisville: Westminster/John Knox, 1996.
- "Qohelet's Autobiography." Pp. 262-87 in Fortunate the Eyes That See (Festschrift for David Noel Freedman). Ed. A. B. Beck et al. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1995.
- "Ugaritic and the Old Testament." Pp. 785-86 in *The Oxford Companion to the Bible*. Ed. B. M. Metzger and M. D. Coogan. New York: Oxford University Press, 1992.
- "Am; Face; Lim; Torah." In *Dictionary of Deities and Demons*. Ed. K. van der Toorn *et al*. Leiden: Brill, 1995.
- "Ark of the Covenant; Deep; Hosea; Lord of Hosts." In *Anchor Bible Dictionary*. Ed. D. N. Freedman *et al.* New York: Doubleday, 1993.
- "Literature of the Ancient Near East." Pp. 57-67 in *The Oxford Study Bible: Revised English Bible*. Ed. M. J. Suggs *et al*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1993.
- "The Ineffable Name of Israel's God." Bible Review 7 (1991) 49-50.
- "A Note on Lamentations 1:20." Catholic Biblical Quarterly 102 (1985) 416-19.
- "The Designation of the Ark in Priestly Theology." *Hebrew Annual Review* 8 (1985) 185-97.
- "The Syro-Palestinian Context of Solomon's Dream." *Harvard Theological Review* 77 (1984) 141-52.
- "Hosea 14:10 and the Foolish People Motif." Catholic Biblical Quarterly 44 (1982) 212-24.

#### **Reviews**

- "Stella Papadaki-Oekland, *Byzantine Illuminated Manuscripts of the Book of Job.*" *Studies in Iconography* 332 (2011) 233-35.
- "John Sawyer, A Concise Dictionary of the Bible and its Reception." Review of Biblical Literature, July 2009.
- "W. H. U. Anderson, *Qoheleth and Its Pessimistic Theology: Hermeneutical Struggles in Wisdom Literature.*" Review of Biblical Literature 2 (1999).
- "Frederic Clarke Putnam, A Cumulative Index to the Grammar and Syntax of Biblical Hebrew." Hebrew Studies 40 (1999) 265-66.
- "Gary Rendsburg, Linguistic Evidence for the Northern Origin of Selected Psalms." Journal of Biblical Literature 112 (1993) 334-37.
- "Carola Kloos, YHWH's Combat with the Sea." Catholic Biblical Quarterly 53 (1991) 472-74.
- "Sa-Moon Kang, Divine War in the Old Testament and in the Ancient Near East." Journal of Biblical Literature 110 (1991) 131-32.
- "Joseph Blenkinsopp, A History of Prophecy in Israel." Princeton Seminary Bulletin 7 (1986) 191-92.
- "Daniel J. Silver, *Images of Moses*." Religious Studies Review 12 (1986) 174.
- "John Emerton, ed., International Congress for the Study of the Old Testament, Salamanca, 1983."

- Religious Studies Review 12 (1986) 283.
- "Ralph Smith, Micah-Malachi." Princeton Seminary Bulletin 7 (1986) 195.
- "H. G. M. Williamson, Ezra-Nehemiah." Princeton Seminary Bulletin 7 (1986) 194.
- "Terence E. Fretheim, Deuteronomic History." Princeton Seminary Bulletin 5 (1984) 158-59.

## **Lectures and Papers** (selected)

- "Reading Job Theologically." Four lectures delivered at the Princeton Theological Seminary Alumni Conference, San Marino, California, November, 2013.
- "The Book of Job." Azusa Pacific University, November, 2013.
- "Leviathan, Mysterium Tremendum et Fascinans." UCLA, November, 2013.
- "Job: Interpretation, Reception, Consequences." Fuller Theological Seminary, November, 2013.
- "Artistic Interpretations of Job." E. J. Goodspeed Lecture. Denison University, October 2013.
- "Job: Interpretation, Reception. Consequences." Hebrew Union College, Cincinnati, October 2013.
- "Job's Wife in Judaism, Christianity, and Islam." Hartford Seminary, October 2013.
- "Gregory the Great's Moralia in Iob." MAR-SBL Annual Meeting, Baltimore, 2013.
- "The Danielic 'Son of Man' (Dan 7:13-14)." Keynote Address at the Society of Asian Biblical Studies Meeting, Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia, June 2012.
- "The Old Testament in Visual Arts." The Chinese University of Hong Kong, July, 2012.
- "Job Through the Eyes of Artists." Middlebury College, December 2012.
- "Theodicy and Antitheodicy in the Book of Job." Georg August Universität, Göttingen, December 2012.
- "Job's Wife, with Due Respect." Einstein Forum, Pottsdam, Germany, July 2012.
- "Bible Translations and Their Consequences." King James Version Conference, Princeton Theological Seminary, March, 2011.
- "Christian Hebraism and Its Impact." *The King James Bible 1611-2011: Its Champions, Critics, and Continuing Legacy*, Princeton University, October, 2011.
- "The Linguistic Profile of the Elihu Speeches." SBL National Meeting, San Francisco, 2011.
- "Hebrew Poetry: Psalm 1." Trinity Theological College, Singapore, July 2010.
- "The Many Faces of Job." Seminari Theoloji Malaysia, July 2010.
- "The History of Consequences." Georg August Universität, Göttingen, December 2009.
- "Ethics and the Book of Job." Kitz Family Lecture in Biblical Theology, Boston College School of Theology and Ministry, March, 2009.
- "Late Antique and Medieval (Christian) Interpretations of Job." MacFadin Lectures, Brite Divinity School, Texas Christian University, February 2009.
- "Job in Second Temple Judaism." Vanderbilt University, 2009.
- "In Defense of Elihu." Colloquium for Biblical Research, Princeton, 2010.
- "The Musicality of Hope." Yale University Divinity School, October 2008.
- "Theologies in Job." Georg-August Universität, Göttingen, 2008.
- "Job's Wife." Plenary Lecture, MAR-SBL Annual Meeting, New Brunswick, 2008.
- "Afterlife in the Hebrew Bible." Invited Plenary Lecture, Conference on Death, Burial and the

- Afterlife. Jerusalem, January, 2008.
- "Radical Monotheism in the Book of Job." Conference on Revolutionary Monotheism, Princeton University, February, 2007.
- "Job at the Crossroads." Special Plenary Lecture given at the Congress of the International Organization of the Study of the Old Testament Studies, Lubljana, Slovenia, July, 2007.
- "Hope in Two Keys." Plenary Lecture given at the Congress of the International Organization of the Study of the Old Testament Studies, Lubljana, Slovenia, July, 2007.
- "Job's Wife." Eberhard Karls Universität, Tübingen; Ruprecht-Karl Universität, Heidelberg; Ludwig Maximilians-Universität, Munich; Humboldt Universität, Berlin, 2007.
- "The Poetry of Job." SBL Annual Meeting, San Diego, 2007.
- "Job's Gō'ēl." Georg-August Universität, Göttingen, 2006.
- "Joban Junctures." University of Zürich, 2006.
- "Joban Poetry: A Crosscut." Plenary Address, International Meeting of the SBL, Singapore, 2005.
- "Elijah's Ministry." Inauguration of the Chen Su Lan Lectureship, Trinity Theological College, Singapore, 2005.
- "Israelite Wisdom Literature as Practical Theology." Chuen King Lectures, the Chinese University of Hong Kong, 2005.
- "The Reign of God in the Book of Daniel." Annual Lectureship, Seminary Theoloji Malaysia, 2004.
- "Hebrew Lexicography." SBL Annual Meeting, San Antonio, 2004.
- "Wisdom Theology: An Asian View." Seminari Theoloji Sabah, Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia, 2004.
- "The Poetics of Job's Curse." Harvard University, 2003.
- "Damn It! Job's Counter-Cosmic Incantation, Again. Colloquium for Biblical Research, Amherst, 2003.
- "The Social World of Qohelet." Plenary Lecture at the MAR-SBL Regional Meeting, 2002.
- "Prophecy Amid Messy History and Dirty Politics." Shoki Coe Memorial Lectureship, Tainan, Taiwan, 2001.
- "Hebrew Pedagogy." University of Melbourne, Department of Semitics, 2000.
- "Hebel: Beyond Mortal Grasp." Ormond College, Melbourne, 2000.
- "Preaching the Preacher." United Theological College, Sydney, 2000.
- "Wisdom as Practical Theology." Mackay Distinguished Lectureship. Taiwan Theological College and Seminary, Taipei, Taiwan, 1999.
- "Teaching Biblical Hebrew." SBL Annual Meeting, Boston, 1999.
- "Optimism, Pessimism, and the *Zeitgeist* of Qohelet." Institute of Advanced Study, School of Social Science, Princeton, 1998.
- "Qohelet's Final Poem." Colloquium for Biblical Research, Amherst, 1997.
- "The Socioeconomic Context of 'the Preacher's' Hermeneutic." Inaugural Lecture as the Henry Snyder Gehman Professor of Old Testament Language and Literature. Princeton Theological Seminary, 1996.
- "Spirited Conversations." Institute of Theology Lectures, Princeton Theological Seminary, 1996.

- "Restoration, Restitution, and Social Reform." Conference on Reconciliation and Restitution. University of Stellenbosch, South Africa, 1996.
- "On the Date of Ecclesiastes." University of Capetown, South Africa, 1996.
- "Ecclesiastes." Rian Lectureship, Princeton Theological Seminary, 1993.
- "Rhetoric and Subversion in Qohelet." Annual Meeting of the SBL, San Francisco, 1992.
- "Psalm 132 as a Political Document." International Meeting of the SBL, Vienna, 1990.
- "Myth, Drama, and the Politics of David's Dance." Mitchell Dahood Memorial Lecture, Annual Meeting of the SBL, Anaheim, 1989.
- "The Cult of El at Shiloh." International Meeting of the SBL, Copenhagen, 1989.
- "Tradition and Imagination." Theological Colloquium of Trinity Theological College, Singapore, 1987.
- "David and the Divine Warrior's March." Annual Meeting of the SBL, Anaheim, 1985.
- "Solomon's Dream." Annual Meeting of SBL, New York, 1982.
- "The Foolish People Motif in Hosea." New England Regional Meeting of the SBL, Boston, 1982.
- "A Theology of the Lost Ark." Trajectories in Biblical Scholarship: A Symposium, York University, Toronto, 1982.

### **Other Professional Activities**

Advisory Board Member, Research in Biblical Literature (in Chinese), 2007-Present.

Advisory Board Member, Trinity Theological Journal, 2005-Present.

External Advisor, Centre for Christian Studies, Chinese University of Hong Kong, 2005-Present.

Evaluator, National Endowment for the Humanities (Summer Fellowships), 2010-2011.

Trustee, Foundation for Theological Education in Southeast Asia, 2003-2009.

Consultant, Committee for the Reorganization of the Association of Theological Education in Southeast Asia and the formation of the ATESEA Theological Union, 2007-2008.

Chair, Biblical Department, Princeton Theological Seminary, 2000-2003.

Convener, Wabash Consultation on Teaching Biblical Hebrew, 2000-2002.

Member, Board of Advisors, Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning in Theology and Religion, 1996-2003.

Member, Executive Committee, SBL, 1996.

At-large Representative to Council, SBL, 1995-1998.

President, Ethnic-Chinese Biblical Colloquium, 1995-1998.

Member, SBL Executive Director Search Committee, 1995.

Member of SBL Steering Committee on Israelite and Early Christian Wisdom, 1992-2000.

Member of Research and Publications Committee, SBL, 1997-2003.