

DEBRA J. ERICKSON

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April 2011

EDUCATION

Doctor of Philosophy, August 2010
University of Chicago Divinity School, Chicago, IL.
Dissertation: "*A World for People and People for the World: Using Casuistry in Environmental Decision-Making.*"

Dissertation Committee: Jean Bethke Elshtain,
Franklin I. Gamwell, William Schweiker

Dissertation Qualifying Examinations:
Philosophical Ethics
Ethics and Political Life
Moral Problems: Ethics and the International Order
Modern Christianity (1600-Present)

Master of Christian Studies in Theology, 2004
Regent College, Vancouver, BC, Canada.
Thesis: "*Happiness or Eudaimonia? The Reasonable Expectations for the Christian Life as Represented in John Wesley's Doctrine of Christian Perfection.*"

Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy, 1996
Houghton College, Houghton, NY.
summa cum laude

PRIMARY RESEARCH INTERESTS

Social and political ethics; Christian ethics
Religion and politics; religion in public life
Environmental ethics, including the built environment
Ethics and the international order: immigration, nationalism, and cosmopolitanism;
international relations and just war

PRESENTATIONS

- “Environmental Casuistry: Using Case-Based Ethics to Resolve Practical Dilemmas,”
Midwest American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, Augustana College,
March 2010
- “Toward a Case-Based Ethic of the Built Environment: Contributions from a Revised
Approach to Environmental Ethics,” Ethics and the Built Environment conference,
University of Nottingham, September 2009
- “Immigration and the Common Good in Contemporary Germany,” University of Notre
Dame graduate student conference, “From *Res Publica* to the Republic of Letters: The
Common Good in Transition and Translation,” October 2008
- “Death with Dignity? The Religious Debate over Physician-Assisted Suicide in *Gonzales
v. Oregon*,” paper presentation at Garrett-Evangelical Student Theological Conference,
April 2008

PUBLICATIONS

- “Standing by the Working Man,” *Sightings*, April 7, 2011
- Review of William T. Cavanaugh, *The Myth of Religious Violence*, in *Journal of Religion*,
October 2010
- “Public Roles, Private Persons,” *Sightings*, February 18, 2010
- “Preaching Good News to the Poor,” *Sightings*, September 25, 2008

AWARDS AND GRANTS

- Martin Marty Center Dissertation Fellowship, University of Chicago, 2009-2010
- Nicholson Center for British Studies Graduate Initiative project grant, awarded jointly
with Philippa Koch, 2009
- University of Chicago Doolittle-Harris Fellowship, 2009
- University of Chicago Divinity School Ph.D. tuition and stipend support, 2005-2009
- Outstanding Woman Scholarship, Regent College, 2000
- Pew Younger Scholars Summer Seminar, 1996
- Who’s Who Among American College Students, 1996
- Excellence Scholar, Houghton College, 1993-1996

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- Instructor, Illinois Institute of Art, Fall 2010
- Course taught: Introduction to Philosophy and Ethics
- Adjunct Faculty, Catholic Theological Union, 2008-present

Course taught: M.A. Research Skills
 Teaching Assistant, Prof. Craig Gay, Regent College, 2002
 Teaching Assistant, Academic Writing Course, Regent College, 2000-2001
 Adult Basic Education Tutor, Oregon Literacy Coalition, 1998
 Guest Lecturer, introductory Ethics course, Houghton College, 1996

INSTITUTIONAL SERVICE

First-round vetting, New Science of Virtues grant competition, Arete Initiative, University of Chicago, 2009
 Member, Martin Marty Center Advisory Board, University of Chicago Divinity School, 2005-2008
 Member, Curriculum Planning Committee, Regent College, 2001-2002
 Director of External Affairs, Regent College Student Council, 2001-2002
 Member, Health Plan Committee, Alma Mater Society, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC, 2001-2002
 Student Representative, Theological Neighbourhood Plan Committee, University of British Columbia, 2001

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2009-present	Conference Coordinator, "The Engaged Mind" conference series (will run 2010-2014), University of Chicago Divinity School
2005-2008	Editor, <i>Religion and Culture Web Forum</i> , Martin Marty Center, University of Chicago Divinity School
Summer 2001	Staff Assistant, Multnomah County (OR) Chair Diane Linn
1998-2000	Staff Assistant, Multnomah County Commissioner Sharron Kelley Project work: Child Abuse Receiving Center (planning and siting), Peace in the Schools Day, East Portland Promotional Brochure, Rockwood Health Clinic Siting, District 4 Community Survey Policy areas: Land Use Planning, Endangered Species Act

Languages	Reading knowledge of French and German Coursework in Biblical Greek and Hebrew Some conversational German
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Memberships American Academy of Religion

REFERENCES

- Jean Bethke Elshtain Laura Spelman Rockefeller Professor of Social and Political Ethics
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 Swift Hall 202, 1025 E. 58th St., Chicago, IL 60637
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- Mary Frohlich,
 R.S.C.J. Associate Professor of Spirituality
 Catholic Theological Union
 5401 South Cornell Ave., Chicago, IL 60615
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- Franklin Gamwell Shailer Mathews Distinguished Service Professor of Religious Ethics,
 the Philosophy of Religions, and Theology
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- Bruce Hindmarsh James M. Houston Associate Professor of Spiritual Theology
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- William Schweiker Edward L. Ryerson Distinguished Service Professor of Theological
 Ethics and Director of the Martin Marty Center
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- John G. Stackhouse, Jr. Sangwoo Youtong Chee Professor of Theology and Culture
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