

DEBRA J. ERICKSON

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EDUCATION

Doctor of Philosophy
(Candidate) University of Chicago Divinity School, Chicago, IL.
(Religious Ethics). Degree expected June 2010.
Dissertation: *"A World for People and People for the
World: A Casuistic Approach to Environmental
Decision-Making."*

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

Dissertation Qualifying Examinations:
Religious Ethics I: Philosophical Ethics
Religious Ethics III: Ethics and Political Life
Religious Ethics VI: Moral Problems
History of Christianity IV: Modern Christianity (1600-
Present)

Master of Christian
Studies Regent College, Vancouver, BC, Canada. (Theology)
April 2004. G.P.A.: 3.91. Thesis: *"Happiness or
Eudaimonia? The Reasonable Expectations for the
Christian Life as Represented in John Wesley's
Doctrine of Christian Perfection."*

Bachelor of Arts
summa cum laude Houghton College, Houghton, NY. (Philosophy;
minors in Psychology and History) December 1996.
G.P.A.: 3.96. Fall 1996 semester at the Oregon
Extension in Lincoln.

COMPETENCIES

Primary Research Interests Religion in public life; religion and politics; the idea of the
kingdom of God (theologically, historically, and politically);
ethics and the international order (immigration, nationalism, and
cosmopolitanism); ethics in economic life; ethics and the
environment (including architecture and urban planning);
Aristotelian and Augustinian ethics; justice and love.

Teaching Competencies	Introduction to Ethics (Philosophical/Theological); Ethics and Politics; American Religious History; Systematic Theology; Introduction to the Bible; Environmental Ethics; Academic Research and Writing.
Languages	Reading knowledge of French and German; coursework in Biblical Greek and Hebrew; some conversational German

ACADEMIC AWARDS

Martin Marty Center Dissertation Fellowship, University of Chicago, 2009-2010 (tuition and \$12,000 stipend)
 Nicholson Center for British Studies Graduate Initiative project grant (award shared with Philippa Koch, \$1500 to fund visiting speaker and colloquia)
 University of Chicago Divinity School Ph.D. tuition and stipend support, 2005-2009
 Outstanding Woman Scholarship, Regent College, 2000 (\$9,300 CDN)
 Ida M. Crawford Scholarship, 1996 (\$750)
 Jerome B. Steinbach Scholarship, 1996 (\$1,000)
 Leroy E. Dettman Scholarship, 1996 (\$500)
 Pew Younger Scholars Summer Seminar, 1996 (\$750 stipend, plus travel and living expenses for three week seminar)
 Who's Who Among American College Students, 1996
 Bruce Merritt Scholarship, Houghton College, 1995 (\$500)
 Portland Teachers Credit Union Scholarship, 1995 (\$2,000)
 Ivan E. Banks Scholarship, 1994-1996 (\$1,000 total)
 Central East Portland Rotary Club Scholarship, 1993-1996 (\$4,000 total)
 Excellence Scholar, Houghton College, 1993-1996 (\$18,000 total)
 Tandy Technology Scholar, 1993 (\$1,000)

TEACHING AND INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT

Adjunct Faculty, Catholic Theological Union, 2008-2009. Course taught: M.A. Research Skills.
 Teaching Assistant, Prof. Craig Gay, Regent College, 2002. Performed academic research, collected data on the Th.M. degree program which Dr. Gay supervised, and aided in course administration.
 Teaching Assistant, Academic Writing Course, Regent College, 2000-2001. Prepared class materials, edited student writing samples, and met with students for individual tutoring.
 Adult Basic Education Tutor, Oregon Literacy Coalition, 1998. One-on-one literacy tutoring.
 Substitute Instructor, Ethics, Houghton College, 1996. Lectured for a week of classes.
 Psychology Tutor, Academic Support Services, Houghton College, 1995. Individual help.
 Tutor, Upward Bound, Southern Tier, New York, 1994-1995. Worked with small groups of promising students from disadvantaged backgrounds.

PAPERS, PRESENTATIONS, AND PUBLICATIONS

- “Toward a Case-Based Ethic of the Built Environment: Contributions from a Revised Approach to Environmental Ethics,” paper presentation at Ethics and the Built Environment conference, University of Nottingham, September 2009 (*forthcoming*)
- “Immigration and the Common Good in Contemporary Germany,” paper presentation at “From *Res Publica* to the Republic of Letters: The Common Good in Transition and Translation,” regional graduate student conference, University of Notre Dame, October 2008
- Panel Moderator, Border Crossings conference on Authority and Intimacy: Forming Whole Persons for the Classroom and the Congregation, University of Chicago Divinity School, September 2008
- “Preaching Good News to the Poor,” *Sightings*, September 25, 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
- Essays written for *Et Cetera*, the Regent College Student Association publication:
- “This is My Body” (on body image and theology), 2003
 - “Dreaming of a Perfect World” (on citizenship and war), 2003
 - “Hope Deferred” (on women, marriage, and family), 2002
- “Liberal or Conservative: Is There a Third Way?” and “Balancing Economics and Human Dignity,” panel presentations given at *The Vine* conference, February 2002

INSTITUTIONAL AND OTHER ACADEMIC SERVICE

- First-round vetting, New Science of Virtues grant competition, Arete Initiative, University of Chicago, 2009
- Member, Border Crossing Initiative Fall Conference Planning Committee, University of Chicago Divinity School, 2008
- Member, Martin Marty Center Advisory Board, University of Chicago Divinity School, 2005-2008
- Recorder, New Science of Virtue consultation, University of Chicago, May 2007
- Active member, Ethics Club, University of Chicago Divinity School, 2005-2007.
Contributed to planning and publicizing club events, including lunch speakers and student ethics conference.
- 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
- Co-Author, Women’s Studies Minor Proposal, Houghton College, 1995
- Co-Founder and President, The Gadfly Society, Houghton College, 1994-1995. Created film lecture series, organized campus-wide forums and hosted Staley Lectureship.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Present position 2005-2008 Conference Coordinator, “The Engaged Mind” conference series (planned for 2010-2014), University of Chicago Divinity School
Editor, *Religion and Culture Web Forum*, Martin Marty Center, University of Chicago Divinity School
Managed all aspects of on-line publication, including solicitation, selection, and editing of content
- 2004-2005 Library Assistant, Fort Vancouver Regional Library
Served patrons and maintained circulation of library materials
- Summer 2001 Staff Assistant, Multnomah County Chair Diane Linn
As part of the Chair’s transition team, oversaw constituent services
- 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
Other duties: resolving constituent complaints, attending departmental and community meetings, preparing presentations and speeches, coordinating the District 4 web site
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REFERENCES

- Jean Bethke Elshtain (dissertation supervisor) Laura Spelman Rockefeller Professor of Social and Political Ethics
University of Chicago Divinity School
Swift Hall 202, 1025 E. 58th St., Chicago, IL 60637
(773) 702-7252
jbelshsta@uchicago.edu
- Mary Frohlich, R.S.C.J. (Director of M.A. Program) Associate Professor of Spirituality
Catholic Theological Union
5401 South Cornell Ave., Chicago, IL 60615
(773) 324-8000
frohlich@ctu.edu
- Bruce Hindmarsh (M.C.S. thesis supervisor) James M. Houston Associate Professor of Spiritual Theology
Regent College
5800 University Blvd., Vancouver, BC, Canada, V6T 2E4
(604) 224-3245
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- John Stackhouse (M.C.S. advisor and thesis second reader) Sangwoo Youtong Chee Professor of Theology and Culture
Regent College
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