

**KEVIN W. HECTOR**  
300A Swift Hall  
University of Chicago Divinity School  
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Chicago, Illinois 60637  
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## **EDUCATION**

Ph.D. in Systematic Theology, Princeton Seminary, 2007

- Dissertation: "Theology without Gaps: The Meaning, Truth, and Reference of God-Talk," Directed by Bruce McCormack, Jeffrey Stout, and George Hunsinger; cited *summa cum laude*.

M.A. in Theology, Wheaton College, 2002

- Thesis: "No Other Starting-Point: Karl Barth's Rejection of Natural Theology," Directed by Mark Husbans and Dennis Okholm

B.S. in English and History Education, University of Illinois, 1997

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

University of Chicago Divinity School  
Assistant Professor of Theology and of the Philosophy of Religions, 2007-  
2015  
Associate Professor of Theology and of the Philosophy of Religions, 2015-  
present

Princeton University  
Lecturer in the Department of Religion, 2006-2007

Princeton Seminary  
Teaching Fellow, 2004-2007

Downers Grove South High School (Downers Grove, Illinois)  
History Teacher, 1997-2003

## **BOOKS**

*Theology without Metaphysics: God, Language, and the Spirit of Recognition*  
(Cambridge University Press, 2011).

*The Theological Project of Modernism: Faith and the Conditions of Mineness* (Oxford University Press, 2015).

*Christianity as a Way of Life: A Systematic Theology* (under contract with Yale University Press; manuscript due 2020).

#### **ARTICLES AND LONGER ESSAYS**

“God’s Triunity and Self-Determination: A Conversation with Karl Barth, Bruce McCormack, and Paul Molnar,” *International Journal of Systematic Theology* 7:3 (July 2005), 246-61. (Reprinted in *Trinity and Election in Contemporary Theology*, ed. Michael Dempsey [Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2011].)

“Actualism and Incarnation: The High Christology of Friedrich Schleiermacher,” *International Journal of Systematic Theology* 8:3 (July 2006), 307-22.

“Apophaticism in Thomas Aquinas: A Re-Reformulation and Recommendation,” *Scottish Journal of Theology* 60:4 (November, 2007), 377-93.

“The Mediation of Christ’s Normative Spirit: A Constructive Reading of Schleiermacher’s Pneumatology,” *Modern Theology* 24:1 (January, 2008), 1-22.

“The Recognition of Baptism: An Ecumenical Proposal,” *Koinonia Journal* (2008).

“Attunement and Explicitation: A Pragmatist Reading of Schleiermacher’s ‘Theology of Feeling,’” in *Schleiermacher, the Study of Religion, and the Future of Theology: A Transatlantic Dialogue*, ed. Brent Sockness and Wilhelm Gräb (Berlin: Walter de Gruyter, 2010), 215-42.

“Postliberal Hermeneutics: Narrative, Community, and the Meaning of Scripture,” *Expository Times* 122:3 (December, 2010), pp. 1-12.

“Ontological Violence and the Covenant of Grace: An Engagement between Karl Barth and Radical Orthodoxy,” in *Karl Barth and American Evangelicalism*, ed. Bruce L. McCormack and Clifford Anderson (Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2011), pp. 323-46.

“Immutability, Necessity, and Triunity: Toward a Resolution of the Trinity and Election Controversy,” *Scottish Journal of Theology* 65:1 (January, 2012), pp. 64-81.

“Karl Barth,” in *The Routledge Companion to Modern Christian Thought*, ed. Chad Meister and James Beilby (Routledge, 2013), pp. 152-62.

“Responses to Long, Crisp, Vanhoozer, and Yadav,” part of a symposium on *Theology without Metaphysics*, in *Journal of Analytic Theology* vol. 1 (2013), pp. 140-7.

“Response to Rowan Williams,” *Marginalia Review of Books*, June 10, 2014.

"Trinity, Asceticism, and Culture: Contextualizing Sarah Coakley's *God, Sexuality, and the Self*," *Modern Theology* 30:4 (October 2014), 561-6.

"Response to Michael Rea," *Scottish Journal of Theology* 68:1 (2015), 80-2.

"Theology as an Academic Discipline: Reconciling *Theological Encyclopedia* and *Evangelical Theology*," in *Karl Barth and the Making of Evangelical Theology: A Fifty-Year Perspective*, ed. Bruce McCormack and Clifford Anderson (Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2015), 91-118.

"Christologies after Kant," in *The Oxford Handbook on Christology*, ed. Francesca Murphy (Oxford University Press, 2015).

"Friedrich Schleiermacher," in *The Cambridge Companion to Reformed Theology*, ed. David Fergusson and Paul Nimmo (Cambridge University Press, 2015).

"Friedrich Schleiermacher," in *The Oxford Handbook to the Epistemology of Theology*, ed. Fredrick Aquino and William Abraham (Oxford University Press, 2017).

"Theological Method," in *The Blackwell Companion to Karl Barth*, ed. George Hunsinger and Keith L. Johnson (Blackwell, forthcoming).

"Eternal Fulfillment: Some Thoughts on the Afterlife," *Journal of Religion* 101:1 (January 2021), 8-26.

## **BOOK REVIEWS AND SHORTER ESSAYS**

Review of *The Ascension in Karl Barth*, *Zeitschrift für Dialektische Theologie* 20:1 (2005), 139-142.

Review of *Community of the Word*, *Princeton Theological Review* 11:3 (Autumn 2005), 28-30.

Review of *Hegel and Christian Theology*, *Koinonia Journal* 17 (2005), 126-7.

Review of Charles Taylor, *A Secular Age*, *Journal of Religion* (July 2010). (A brief response from Taylor is included in the same volume.)

"Dialectical Theology," "Election," "G.W.F. Hegel," and "Friedrich Schleiermacher," in *Encyclopedia of Christian Civilization*, ed. George T. Kurian (Oxford: Blackwell, 2011).

"Atonement," *The Westminster Handbook to Karl Barth*, ed. Richard Burnett (Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press, 2013).

"Ontology," in *The Evangelical Dictionary of Theology*, ed. Daniel Treier (Baker, 2017).

“Arguments for the Existence of God,” “Dialectic,” “Philosophical Theology,” “Pragmatism,” and “Theological Epistemology,” in *The Westminster Dictionary of Christian Theology*, ed. Dawn DeVries and Brian Gerrish (Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press, forthcoming).

## ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS

“Theology and the Empirical Stance: An Engagement with Bas van Fraassen,” presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, November, 2006.

“Baptism: The Recognition of Christ’s Spirit,” the central paper at *Koinonia’s* Annual Forum, March, 2007.

“Ontological Violence and the Covenant of Grace: An Engagement between Karl Barth and Radical Orthodoxy,” presented at the Third Annual Barth Conference, June, 2007.

“Trinity, History, and Election: The Covenant as God’s Fitness for History and History’s Fitness for God,” invited paper for the Princeton-Kampen Consultation, September, 2007.

“Tradition: The History of the Spirit,” the Disciples Divinity House Forum, University of Chicago, February 2008.

“Attunement and Explication: A Pragmatist Reading of Schleiermacher’s ‘Theology of Feeling,’” presented at the International Schleiermacher Conference, “Schleiermacher, the Study of Religion, and the Future of Theology,” October, 2008.

“The Spirit of the Canon: A Friendly Response to Canonical Theism,” presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, November, 2008.

“Trinity and Election,” presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, November, 2008.

“A Theological Response to *A Secular Age*,” presented at a forum with Charles Taylor entitled “Religion and the Secular Ages,” February 2009.

“Immutability, Necessity, and the Limits of Inference: Toward a Resolution of the Trinity and Election Controversy,” invited paper, presented at *Logos 2009*, Notre Dame’s First Annual Philosophical Theology Conference, May 2009.

“By the grace of God, I am what I am: On the ontological priority of *Gabe* over *Es Gibt*,” response to Simon Critchley, “You are not your own: On the nature of faith,” University of Chicago Theology Workshop, May 2010.

“The Search for Universal Ethics’: A Recognition-Theoretic Pragmatist Response,” presented at “The Concept of Social Justice” conference, Marquette University, November 2010.

Respondent to Michael Ruse, “Science and Spirituality,” University of Chicago, November 2011.

Colloquium on *Theology without Metaphysics*, University of Notre Dame, February 2012.

Dean’s Forum on *Theology without Metaphysics*, University of Chicago, February 2012; response to papers by Daniel Arnold and Willemien Otten.

“Theology as an Academic Discipline: Reconciling *Theological Encyclopedia* and *Evangelical Theology*,” presented at the Karl Barth Conference, Princeton Seminary, June 2012.

Commentator on Timothy Jackson’s “Not by Reason Alone: The Priority of Sanctity Over Dignity,” at “Challenges to Religious and Moral Belief: Disagreement and Evolution,” Purdue University, September 2012.

Respondent for an “Author Meets Critics” session on *Theology without Metaphysics*, Theological Method Group, Annual Meeting of the Evangelical Theological Society, November 2012; response to papers by D. Stephen Long, Oliver Crisp, and Kevin Vanhoozer.

“Justifying Analogy,” presented as part of a session on *Theology without Metaphysics*, Analytic Theology Group, Annual Meeting of the Evangelical Theological Society, November 2012; also responding to papers by Michael Rea and Meghan Sullivan.

Respondent for an “Author Meets Critics” session on *Theology without Metaphysics*, Philosophy of Religion Section, Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, November 2012.

“The Educator as Mentor: A Conversation between Prof. Kevin Hector and Prof. Jeffrey Stout,” sponsored by the University of Chicago’s Religion and Ethics Workshop and the Divinity School’s Craft of Teaching Program, January 11, 2013.

“The Theological Dimension of Theological Realism,” presented at *Logos 2013*, Notre Dame’s annual philosophical theology conference, May 2013.

“Christologies after Kant,” presented at a Christology Conference, Notre Dame, May 2013.

“Theology and Philosophy,” presented at a session entitled “What is ‘Theological’ about Theology? A Conversation between Analytic and Continental Perspectives,” Philosophy of Religion Section and Theology and Religious Reflection Section, Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, November 2014.

Commentator on Richard Miller’s “The Ethics of Empathy,” Faculty Retreat, University of Chicago Divinity School, January 2015.

“A Model of Simplicity: From the Vocation of Jesus to the Absolute Undividedness of God,” presented at a Colloquium on Divine Simplicity, Wheaton College, March 2015.

Commentator on Sameer Yadav’s “Mystical Experience and the Apophatic Attitude,” at *Logos 2015*, Notre Dame’s annual philosophical theology conference, May 2015.

“On Theology,” presented to the Global Christianities Workshop, University of Chicago, November 2015.

“Prayer and the Transformation of the Heart,” presented at Fuller Seminary, March, 2016.

“Prayer and the Transformation of Joy,” presented at Yale Divinity School, September 2016.

“Eternal Fulfillment? Some Thoughts on the Afterlife,” presented at Yale Divinity School, December, 2016.

“Devoting Oneself to God: Some Thoughts on Repentance and Baptism,” presented at Yale Divinity School, 2016.

Commentator on Richard Miller’s “Critical Humanism,” Faculty Retreat, University of Chicago Divinity School, January 2017.

“Prayer and the Transformation of the Heart,” presented at Georgetown University, March 2017.

“The Theological Traditions of Swift Hall,” presented at the University of Chicago Divinity School, May 2017.

“Eternal Fulfillment? Some Thoughts on the Afterlife,” presented as part of the Philosophy Speakers Series, Wheaton College, October 2017.

“Theology: Chicago Style,” presented to the Theology and Ethics Workshop, University of Chicago, October 2017.

Commentator on Sarah Fredericks’ “Environmental Guilt and Shame,” Faculty Retreat, University of Chicago Divinity School, January 2018.

“Freedom, Necessity, and the Love of God: Schleiermacher on Creation,” presented at the conference, “A Modern Creature: Science and the Doctrine of Creation in Modern Theology,” Trinity International University, February 2018.

Moderator of a Veritas Forum at the University of Chicago, on the question, “Is Belief in God Irrational?” April 2018.

“The Concept of Joy,” presented at “The Future of Joy and the Good Life,” a conference at Yale, July 2018.

“Pragmatic Therapy: Jeffrey Stout’s Contributions to Theology,” presented at a conference marking the retirement of Jeffrey Stout, at Princeton University, September 2018.

“Memory and Self-Construction: A Science-Engaged Theology of Personal Identity,” presented at a workshop on science-engaged theology, Villanova University, July 2019.

“The Good of Theology,” presented at the conference “Toward a New Theological Culture,” University of Fribourg, January 2021.

“New Creation: Repentance, Selfhood, and Narrative,” to be presented at Notre Dame’s Logos Workshop, May 2021. [Conference cancelled due to COVID.]

“Home-Making Practices,” presented at Yale Divinity School, September 2020.

## **POPULAR PRESENTATIONS**

“On Symbolic Protest,” a message presented at the University of Chicago’s Rockefeller Chapel, April 15, 2012.

Guest on WGN-Radio’s *Extension 720 with Milt Rosenberg*, as part of a discussion about contemporary Jewish-Christian relations, July 3, 2012.

“Faith in the Secular Academy,” presented as part of the Veritas Forum at the University of Illinois, February 2013.

Co-host (with Jeffrey Stackert) of *The Biggest Question Podcast*, sponsored by the University of Chicago’s Martin Marty Center, to debut in 2020.

## **GRANTS AND AWARDS**

Presidential Fellowship and Merit Tuition Scholarship, Princeton Theological Seminary, 2003-2007

Course Development Award from the Templeton Foundation, administered by Notre Dame's Center for the Philosophy of Religion, for a course related to "Analytic Theology," awarded 2012.

Award for Excellence in Graduate Teaching and Mentoring, University of Chicago, 2013.

Research grant for "Christianity as a Way of Life," awarded by the Yale Center for Faith and Culture, 2018.

Research grant for "Memory and Personal Identity," awarded by the Templeton Foundation, as part of the larger grant for "Collaborative Inquiries in Christian Theological Anthropology," 2020-2023.

## **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

University of Chicago:

Director of Doctoral Studies, 2021-  
Deanship Review Committee, 2020-21  
Promotion and Tenure Committee, 2015-17, 2020-2022  
Academic Policy Committee, 2008-2009, 2009-2011, 2018-2019 (chair)  
Theology Search Committee, 2010-2013, 2019-2020 (chair)  
Global Christianities Committee, 2017-2019 (chair)  
Seminar Leader for Marty Center Fellows, 2018-2019  
Race and Religion Search Committee, 2018-2019  
Global Christianities Workshop Sponsor, 2014-2016  
Deanship Search Committee, 2015-2016  
Diversity Committee, 2012-2015  
Theology Area Chair, 2008-2009, 2014-2015  
Religion and Ethics Workshop Sponsor, 2011-2014  
ATS Accreditation Committee, 2011-2013  
Search Committee for Director of Field Education, 2013  
Theology Workshop Sponsor, 2011-2012  
Undergraduate Studies Committee, 2009-2011  
Ministry Committee, 2007-2009, 2012-2013  
Disciplinary Committee, 2008-2009, 2020 (chair)  
Committee on Degrees, 2008-2009

Manuscript Referee:

*International Journal of Systematic Theology*  
*The Journal of Religion*  
*Modern Theology*  
*Journal of Religious Ethics*  
Oxford University Press  
Yale University Press  
University of Chicago Press



Grant Proposal Referee:

Notre Dame's Center for the Philosophy of Religion  
John Templeton Foundation

Theology Representative, Association of Black Seminarians' Annual Academic  
Forum, Princeton Theological Seminary, 2005 and 2006

Chair of U.S. History Program, Downers Grove South High School, 2002-3