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Curriculum Vitae

EDUCATION:

Southern Illinois University Carbondale, Carbondale, IL 2004-2007

Ph.D. in Philosophy, August 2007

Dissertation: "Being Persons in a Depersonalizing World: Marcel and Gordon on the Human Condition in Late Western Modernity"
Committee members: Randall E. Auxier (director), Kenneth W. Stickers, Anthony J. Steinbock, Stephen Tyman, and Lenore Langdsorf

Southern Illinois University Carbondale, Carbondale, IL 2002-2004

M.A. in Philosophy, May 2004

Master's thesis: "Josiah Royce's Personalism"
Thesis director: Randall E. Auxier; other committee members: Kenneth W. Stickers and Stephen Tyman

Christopher Newport University, Newport News, VA

2000-2002

B.A. in Philosophy with departmental honors

Concentration: Values and the Professions, *summa cum laude*, May 2002

Rappahannock Community College, Warsaw, VA 1997-2000

A.A.S. in General Studies, *summa cum laude*, May 2000

AREAS OF SPECIALTY: 20th century American Philosophy and 20th century Continental Philosophy (esp. Existential Phenomenology)

AREAS OF COMPETENCE: Africana Philosophy, Moral Philosophy, Philosophy of Religion, Social and Political Philosophy

PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS HELD:

Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy, Grand Valley State University, Allendale, MI (Fall 2008 – present)

Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy, Grand Valley State University, Allendale, MI (Fall 2007 – Summer 2008)

Lecturer, City Colleges of Chicago, Chicago, IL (Summer 2007)

Lecturer, Department of Philosophy, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville,

Edwardsville, IL (Spring 2007)

Lecturer, Kaskaskia College, Centralia, IL (Spring 2006 – Fall 2006)

Teaching Assistant, Southern Illinois University Carbondale, Carbondale, IL (Fall 2002 – Spring 2003)

SELECTED PROFESSIONAL PUBLICATIONS:

Books:

Doing Philosophy Personally: Thinking with Gabriel Marcel and Lewis Gordon about Metaphysics, Theism, and Antiracist Racism. (Currently under contract with Fordham University Press.)

Yes, But Not Quite: Encountering Josiah Royce's Ethico-Religious Insight. New York: Fordham University Press, 2009.

Articles and Book Chapters:

"Dr. Seuss Meets Philosophical Aesthetics," in *Dr. Seuss and Philosophy – Oh, the Things You Can Think!* Edited by Jacob M. Held. Lanham, MD: Rowan and Littlefield, forthcoming. (Invited chapter)

"Prophetic Ethics: Rufus Burrow, Jr.'s Personalist Contribution to Religious Ethics," *The Pluralist* 6.1 (Spring 2011): 14-29. (Invited article)

"Transcendental Pragmatism: Pihlström's Naturalism or Royce's Religious Existentialism?" *Idealistic Studies* 39.1-3 (Spring-Summer-Fall 2009): 149-159 (Peer-reviewed article)

"Josiah Royce 'Enlightened' Anti-Black Racism?" *The Pluralist* 4.3 (Fall 2009): 39-45. (Invited article)

"Struggling against the Specter of Dehumanization: The Experiential Origins of Marcel's Reflective Method," *Philosophy Today* 53.2 (Summer 2009): 147-160. (Peer-reviewed article)

"Cornel West, John Dewey, and the Tragicomic Undercurrents of Deweyan Creative Democracy," *Contemporary Pragmatism* 5.2 (December 2008): 109-129. (Peer-reviewed article)

"Taking Africana Existential Philosophy of Education Seriously," *Philosophical Studies in Education* 39 (2008): 46-55. Available online at <<http://ovpes.org/2008/Tunstall.pdf>>. (Peer-reviewed article)

"Learning Metaphysical Humility with Lewis Gordon's Teleological Suspension of Philosophy," *C.L.R. James Journal: A Publication of the Caribbean Philosophical Association* 14.1 (Spring 2008): 157-168. (Peer-reviewed article)

"Why Violence Can be Viewed as a Legitimate Means of Combating White Supremacy for Some African Americans," in *Radical Philosophy Today, Volume 5: Democracy, Racism, and Prisons.* Edited by Harry van der Linden, 159-173. Charlottesville, VA: Philosophy Documentation Center, 2007. (Peer-reviewed chapter)

“Concerning the God that is Only a Concept: A Marcellian Critique of Royce’s God,” *Transactions of the Charles S. Peirce Society: A Quarterly Journal in American Philosophy* 42.3 (Summer 2006): 394-416. (Peer-reviewed article)

“Evaluating Rhetoric and Writing, Again: Analyzing Phaedrus 259e-279c,” *Southwest Philosophical Studies* 26 (Spring 2004): 9-15. (Invited article)

Book Reviews, Review Essays, and Book Notes:

Review of Michael Lackey, *African American Atheists and Political Liberation: A Study of the Sociocultural Dynamics of Faith, Peace & Change: A Journal of Peace Research* 35.1 (January 2010): 175-178.

“Review Essay: An Odd Black Solidarity, Indeed,” *Philosophy and Social Criticism* 36.1 (January 2010): 111-122. (A review essay on Tommie Shelby’s *We Who Are Dark*)

Review of John R. Shook and Paulo Ghiraldelli, eds., *Contemporary Pragmatism, Special Issue on Cornel West* 4.1 (June 2007); *Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy Newsletter*, No. 108 (November 2009):43-45.

Review of Jacquelyn Ann K. Kegley’s *Josiah Royce in Focus*, *The Pluralist* 4.2 (Summer 2009): 127-134.

Review of Tommie Shelby, *We Who Are Dark: The Philosophical Foundations for Black Solidarity*, *Essays in Philosophy: A Biennial Journal* 9.2 (June 2008): [n.p.] Available online at: <http://commons.pacificu.edu/eip/vol9/iss2/2> .

“Book Note: Thomas Jay Oord, ed., *The Many Facets of Love: Philosophical Explorations*,” *Process Studies: A Journal of the Center for Process Studies* 37.1 (2008): 208-209.

Review of Gabriel Marcel’s *La Métaphysique de Royce, avec un appendice de texts, publiée et préfacée par Miklos Vetö*, *Transactions of the Charles S. Peirce Society: A Quarterly Journal in American Philosophy* 42.4 (Fall 2006): 582-585.

Review of Thomas O. Buford and Harold H. Oliver, editors, *Personalism Revisited: Its Proponents and Critics*, *Transactions of the Charles S. Peirce Society: A Quarterly Journal in American Philosophy* 41.2 (Spring 2005): 460-466.

Encyclopedia Entries:

“External/Internal Relations.” In John Lachs and Robert Talisse, editors. *American Philosophy: An Encyclopedia*. New York: Routledge, 2008, 273-276.

“Liberation Theology.” In John Lachs and Robert Talisse, editors. *American Philosophy: An Encyclopedia*. New York: Routledge, 2008, 461-463.

SELECTED PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS:

“Did Richard Rorty Give Up on Philosophy After All?” Presentation at 38th annual conference of the Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy; Spokane, WA (March 11, 2011).

“Goodbye, Idealist Consensus; Hello, New Realism!”, Invited presentation for Hope College

Philosophy Department's Speaker Series, Holland, MI (November 16, 2010).

"Responsibly Creating Personscapes," Hocking-Cabot Seminar Presentation, Carbondale, IL (July 14, 2010).

"There are Prophets, and There are *Ethical* Prophets: David Walker's and Rufus Burrow, Jr.'s Contribution to Religious Ethics," Presentation for Personalist Discussion Group Session at 2010 American Philosophical Association Meeting, Central Division; Chicago, IL (February 20, 2010).

"Derrida's Anti-Realism," GVSU Philosophy Department Colloquium Presentation, Allendale, MI (October 9, 2009).

"What We Can Learn from Richard Rorty's Philosophy," Presentation at 2009 Rutgers Summer Institute for Diversity in Philosophy, New Brunswick, NJ (July 10, 2009).

"An Odd Black Solidarity, Indeed: Tommie Shelby's Pragmatic Black Solidarity," Presentation at Texas A&M University Philosophy Department Colloquium, College Station, TX (February 3, 2009).

"Shelby's Pragmatic Black Solidarity, A Resource for African American Studies in a Post-Civil Rights Era?" Panel Presentation at the 15th annual Philosophy Born of Struggle conference (Theme: Philosophy and African American Studies), hosted by Michigan State University's African and African American Studies Program, East Lansing, MI (October 24, 2008).

"Two Varieties of Transcendental Pragmatism: Acknowledging Pihlström's Transcendental Pragmatism, Remembering Royce's Absolute Pragmatism," Presented at the 10th annual Midwest Pragmatist Study Group of the Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy, held at Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI), Indianapolis, IN (September 27, 2008).

"Living with the Tragicomedy of Deweyan Creative Democracy," Presented at the Society for the Philosophy of Creativity Group Session, 2007 Eastern Division American Philosophical Association Meeting, Baltimore, MD (December 29, 2007).

"Taking Africana Existential Philosophy of Education Seriously," Presented at the Creolizing Philosophy of Education I: Dialoguing through Africana Thought on Disciplines, Pedagogy, and Maturation Panel, Ohio Valley Philosophy of Education Society Annual Conference, Dayton, OH (September 28, 2007).

"Is African American Christianity, as Traditionally Understood, Spiritually Detrimental to African Americans?" 7th Annual Phenomenology Roundtable Meeting, hosted by Marquette University, Milwaukee, WI (June 15, 2007).

"Cornel West's Non-Deweyan Prophetic Pragmatism," Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy, 34th Annual Conference, hosted by University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC (March 10, 2007).

"Why Violence Can be Viewed as a Legitimate Means of Combating White Supremacy for Some African Americans," Critical Race Theory Panel Presentation, Seventh Biennial Radical Philosophy Association International/National Conference, held at Creighton University,

Omaha, NE (November 4, 2006).

“Temporality in an Ethical Register: Coupling Royce’s Temporalism with Levinasian Insights,” Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy, 33rd Annual Conference, San Antonio, TX (March 10, 2006).

“*Erdboden* and Transcendental Intersubjectivity in Husserl’s Phenomenology,” Presentation for “The Crisis Afoot in the 21st Century: Husserlian Contributions” panel at the 44th annual meeting of Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy, Salt Lake City, UT (October 20, 2005).

“Royce and King on *Agape* and the Beloved Community;” Invited presentation for Joint Group Session of the Society for the Philosophy of Creativity, the Personalist Discussion Group, and the Society for the Study of Process Philosophy at the 2005 American Philosophical Association Meeting, Central Division; Chicago, IL (April 29, 2005).

“Josiah Royce and the New Realists: Seeing Their Metaphysical Differences Up-Close,” The Relevance of Royce: A Conference (Josiah Royce Sesquicentennial Celebration), sponsored by the Josiah Royce Society and held at Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN (April 10, 2005).

“Du Bois’s Ethical Personalism,” Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy, 32nd Annual Conference, Bakersfield, CA (March 4, 2005).

“Royce’s Temporalism,” 29th Annual Midsouth Philosophy Conference, held at University of Memphis, Memphis, TN (February 19, 2005).

“A Prolegomenon to a Phenomenological Philosophy of History;” 55th Annual New Mexico/West Texas Philosophical Society Conference; San Antonio, TX (March 28, 2004).

“Evaluating Rhetoric & Writing Again: Analyzing *Phaedrus* 259e-279c;” 54th Annual New Mexico/West Texas Philosophical Society Conference; Santa Fe, NM (April 12, 2003).

PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCES, COMMENTARIES, SESSIONS CHAIRED, & DISCUSSIONS LED:

Organizer, Josiah Royce Society Conference at Indianapolis University Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI) (scheduled for September 23-24, 2011).

Commentator on three papers about my book *Yes, But Not Quite*, Joint Personalist Discussion Group and Josiah Royce Society Group Session, 2010 American Philosophical Association Eastern Division Meeting (December 28, 2010).

Panelist, Philosophy Department Colloquium Panel on Liberal Education, Grand Valley State University, Allendale, MI (September 10, 2010).

Commentator on Lee McBride’s “Pragmatist Feminism and Pro-Women Politics” and Kara Barnette’s “Necessary Error: Josiah Royce, Communal Inquiry, and Feminist Epistemology,” 37th Annual Meeting of Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy, Charlotte, NC (March 11, 2010).

Discussion leader, session on chapters 1-3 of Cornel West's *Democracy Matters*, 11th Annual Meeting, Midwest Pragmatist Study Group of the Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy, hosted by Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI), Indianapolis, IN (September 26, 2009).

Chair, Josiah Royce Society Session on "Roycean Egoism and Social Hope," at the 2009 American Philosophical Association Meeting, Central Division; Chicago, IL (February 19, 2009; I organized the session, but I was unable to attend the actual conference session.).

Commentator on Jacquelyn Kegley's and Tommy Curry's presentations on Josiah Royce and racism, Joint Session of the Josiah Royce Society and the Personalist Discussion Group at the 2008 American Philosophical Association Meeting, Central Division; Chicago, IL (April 19, 2008).

Commentator on several presentations given at the *Agora* Graduate Student Colloquium, Southern Illinois University Carbondale, Carbondale, IL (May 4, 2007; February 2, 2007; October 6, 2006; December 3, 2004).

Commentator on Daniel Kruidenier's presentation, "Is Prophetic Pragmatism Pragmatist?" 29th Annual Midsouth Philosophy Conference, held at University of Memphis, Memphis, TN (February 18, 2005).

Commentator, "Doing the Undoable," Commentary on Dr. Raymond Anderson's presentation, "Can Moral Leadership 'Make Love Its Goal?'" 7th International Conference on Persons, held at University of Memphis, Memphis, TN (August 7, 2003).

WORKS SUBMITTED FOR PUBLICATION AND CONFERENCES:

"Affirming Personality, Criticizing Impersonalism, and Experiencing the Divine: The Schleiermacherian Themes that Influenced Boston Personalism." Chapter for book on Schleiermacherian influence on 19th and early 20th century American religious thought. Manuscript is currently under review at Wipf and Stock Publishers.

"A Personalistic Religious Humanism." Chapter-length manuscript for a volume on ethical personalism to be edited by Dr. Cheikh Gueye. Manuscript affirms the central insights of twentieth-century personalism, particularly Boston personalism, but anchoring it in a non-theistic religious humanism.

WORKS IN PROGRESS:

Revising draft of Introduction and List of Books for Further Reading for *Orientalist Writers* volume; also responsible for editing some of the volume's entries. It is currently under contract with Bruccoli Clark Layman, Inc. It is the 366th volume of the *Dictionary of Literary Biography* series, and it should be in print sometime early 2012. I am co-editing this volume with Dr. Coeli Fitzpatrick.

"Goodbye, Idealist Consensus; Hello, New Realism!" Revised contribution for edited collection of papers presented at the 2005 Josiah Royce Society conference at Vanderbilt

University. Revisions to this chapter-length manuscript will be completed by August 2011. Editors of this collection intended to have it reviewed by Fordham University Press.

Revision of Hocking-Cabot Seminar presentation, “Responsibly Creating Personscapes,” for possible publication in a specialty journal or edited volume on systematic philosophy. Submitted to Directors of Hocking-Cabot Seminar to be considered for publication at an academic press.

“Whiting Lewis Gordon Out and Missing the Point: Bart van Leeuwen, Poster Child for Epistemic Convergence.” Article-length manuscript arguing that Bart van Leeuwen’s criticisms of Lewis Gordon’s phenomenology of racism miss their mark for two reasons. First, Leeuwen mistakenly interprets Gordon as being an orthodox Sartrean phenomenologist when in fact Gordon is not one. Second, Leeuwen is unable to appreciate Gordon’s phenomenology of racism because he is unable to see that Gordon’s phenomenology of racism is actually a Du Boisian and Fanonian phenomenology of racism, and not a strictly orthodox Sartrean one. I think Tommy Curry’s notion of epistemic convergence provides a plausible explanation for Leeuwen ignoring the Du Boisian and Fanonian roots of Gordon’s phenomenology of racism.

SELECTED PROFESSIONAL AWARDS AND HONORS:

- ♣ American Society for Aesthetics Visiting Scholar, Philosophy in an Inclusive Key Summer Institute (August 2011).
- ♣ Hocking-Cabot Fellow (July 2010 – present).
- ♣ Co-recipient of the Josiah Royce Society’s first Harry Todd Costello Prize for Excellence in Philosophy for the best paper presented by a graduate student or recent PhD at its semi-annual conference (April 10, 2005; awarded at the sesquicentennial celebration of Royce’s birth).
- ♣ Nominated for Southern Illinois University Carbondale (SIUC) University Outstanding Master’s Thesis Award by SIUC Philosophy Department (2005).
- ♣ Recipient of Diversifying Higher Education Faculty for Illinois Fellowship (formerly ICEOP/IMGIP) (2004-2007).
- ♣ Recipient of SIUC’s Graduate Dean’s Fellowship (2003-2004).
- ♣ Recipient of New Mexico/West Texas Philosophical Society’s Hubert Griggs Alexander Memorial Award (2003).

UNIVERSITY/DEPARTMENT SERVICE:

- ♣ Philosophy Department Assessment Committee (January 2010 – present).
- ♣ College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS) member, Undergraduate Research Council (August 2009 – May 2011).
- ♣ CLAS Associate, GVSU Faculty Teaching and Learning Center’s Liberal Education Academy (2009-2010).
- ♣ Faculty Associate and Advisory committee, GVSU African and African American Studies Program (December 2008 – present).
- ♣ Member, Ad hoc committee on the creation of a writing-intensive philosophy course (GVSU Department of Philosophy, Fall 2008).
- ♣ Research and course development for GVSU’s Philosophy Department (Summer 2007). Created syllabi for three upper-level undergraduate courses in the field of

Africana philosophy: (1) African American Philosophy, (2) Cornel West's Prophetic Pragmatism, and (3) Africana Phenomenology.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE:

- ♣ At-large Director – Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy Board of Directors (2011-2014).
- ♣ Program Committee Member – Midwest Pragmatist Study Group (2010-2011).
- ♣ Vice President, Josiah Royce Society (April 2010 – present).
- ♣ Consulting Scholar for *The Collected Works of Josiah Royce* (2010 – present).
- ♣ Faculty Speaker – 2009 Rutgers Summer Institute for Diversity in Philosophy (July 10, 2009).
- ♣ At-large representative, Executive Board of the Josiah Royce Society (March 2009 – March 2010).
- ♣ Organizer for the Josiah Royce Society Session, American Philosophical Association Central Division Meeting (2008 – 2010).
- ♣ Manuscript referee for the following journals and academic presses: Fordham University Press, *Journal of Social Philosophy*, *Journal for Peace and Justice Studies*, *Peace and Change: A Journal of Peace Research*, *The Pluralist*, and *Transactions of the Charles S. Peirce Society*.
- ♣ Nominating committee member, Josiah Royce Society (2007).

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:

- ♣ Wrote and submitted Liberal Education Academy study report entitled, “Implementing a Three-Phased Blended Learning Pedagogy in Aesthetics (PHI 220): Facilitating and Developing Writing Skills,” to GVSU Faculty and Teaching Learning Center (October 2010).
- ♣ Attended Hocking-Cabot Seminar on Systematic Philosophy, hosted by Southern Illinois University Carbondale and sponsored by Hocking-Cabot Fund for Systematic Philosophy (July 12 – 16, 2010).
- ♣ Attended GVSU Pew Teaching and Learning Center Liberal Education Academy Retreat (August 10, 2009).
- ♣ Second Workshop in Social and Political Thought at Michigan State University (MSU), sponsored by the MSU Philosophy Department, East Lansing, MI (March 28-29, 2009).
- ♣ Attended the Fifth Biennial Personalist Seminar on William James and Emmanuel Levinas at Western Carolina University in Cullowhee, North Carolina (July 12-16, 2004).
- ♣ Attended the 2001 Rutgers University Summer Institute for Diversity in Philosophy (formerly known as Summer Institute in Philosophy for Minority Students) (July 8-15, 2001).

INTERVIEWS:

- ♣ “WGVU Morning Show’s CLAS Third Thursdays,” radio interview about philosophy and my book *Yes, But Not Quite*, Grand Rapids, MI, October 15, 2009. Available online at <http://www.wgvu.org/wgvunews/index.cfm?id=tmsarc&sty=4658> .

- ♣ Interviewed by Xie Lan; interview published in *Shanghai Morning Post*, pp. B 8-9, July 4, 2010 (in Chinese). Available online at http://newspaper.jfdaily.com/xwcb/html/2010-07/04/content_364289.htm .

COURSES TAUGHT:

Lower-level undergraduate courses:

Aesthetics
Critical Thinking (Informal Logic)
Ethics
Introduction to Philosophy
Logic

Upper-level undergraduate courses:

Independent Study: Husserlian origins of Jacques Derrida's deconstruction
Independent Study: African American Philosophy
Independent Study: Gabriel Marcel's Philosophy
Philosophy of Death and Dying
Philosophy of Religion
Philosophical Writing and Methods
Recent Great Philosophers: Emmanuel Levinas and Frantz Fanon
Theories of Human Nature
Visionary Thinkers in the American Mosaic: W. E. B. Du Bois

ADDITIONAL TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

- ♣ Guest lecturer in Kenneth Stickers's and Tommy Curry's PHIL 340: Philosophy of Race/ BAS 499: Critical Race Theory course at SIUC (February 16, 2007). Lecture was on Lewis Gordon's Africana phenomenology and his philosophy of religion.
- ♣ Writing consultant and assistant student director at CNU's *Alice F. Randall Writing Center* (August 2001-May 2002).

LANGUAGE COMPETENCE:

French: reading and translating knowledge

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS:

Association for Political Theory (Active)
Josiah Royce Society (Active)
Midwest Pragmatist Study Group of SAAP (Active)
Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy (Active)
Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy

REFERENCES: Available upon request.