

## COURTNEY BENDER

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### POSITIONS

Ada Byron Bampton Tremain Professor of Religion, Columbia University. 2021-  
Professor. Columbia University, Department of Religion. 2013-2021  
Associate Professor. Columbia University, Department of Religion. 2006-2013  
Assistant Professor. Columbia University, Department of Religion. 1999-2006  
Adjunct Assistant Professor. Columbia University, Department of Sociology. 1997

### EDUCATION

Princeton University, Princeton New Jersey. 1991-1997  
Ph.D. conferred November 1997. Sociology  
M.A. with Distinction, October 1993. Sociology

Swarthmore College, Swarthmore Pennsylvania. 1987-1991  
B.A. with Honors. Religion and Sociology & Anthropology

### PUBLICATIONS

#### Monographs

In preparation. *The Religion of the Future*.

Monograph of seven chapters, six in draft, precis available upon request. Under consideration,  
Princeton University Press.

2010. *The New Metaphysicals: Spirituality and the American Religious Imagination*. University of Chicago Press.

Winner, 2010 American Publishers Awards for Professional & Scholarly Excellence (PROSE  
Awards) in Religious Studies.

Winner, 2011 Distinguished Book Award. American Sociological Association Section on Religion.

Selected published reviews: Anne Duncan, *Journal of American Academy of Religion*, January 2011;  
David Yamane, *Hedgehog Review*, July 2011, Nancy Ammerman, *Sociology of Religion*, July 2011, Marion  
Goldman *American Journal of Sociology* 2011.

*The Immanent Frame* <http://blogs.ssrc.org/tif/category/the-new-metaphysicals/>

Reviews by: Robert Orsi, Michael Saler, Andrew Perrin, David Smilde, Joel Robbins,  
Pamela Klassen, Kathryn Lofton, Finbarr Curtis, John Lardas Modern, Leigh Eric Schmidt

2003. *Heaven's Kitchen: Living Religion at God's Love We Deliver*. University of Chicago Press.

Selected published reviews: John Bartkowski, *American Journal of Sociology* 109 (2004): 987–988; Bryan S. Turner, *Sociology* 38 (2004): 195-202; Steven M. Tipton, *Contemporary Sociology* 33 (2004): 460-2; Gerardo Martí, *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion* 43 (2004): 151-2; Fred Kniss, *Journal of Religion* 84 (2004): 282–284; Penny Edgell, *Social Forces* 84 (2005): 1318-1319; Michele Dillon, “Religion Contextualized” *Contemporary Sociology* 41 (2012): 561-570.

Chapter 4, “What We Talk About When We Talk About Religion” republished in *Ethnography and the City: Readings on Doing Urban Fieldwork*. Edited by Richard E. Ocejo. New York: Routledge, 2013.

### **Edited and coauthored volumes**

2022. *The Abyss, or Life is Simple: Reading Knausgaard Writing Religion*. Courtney Bender, Jeremy Biles, Liane Carlson, Joshua Dubler, Hannah Garvey, M. Cooper Harriss, Winnifred Fallers Sullivan, Erik Thorstensen. University of Chicago Press.

2013. *Religion on the Edge: New Directions in the Sociology of Religion*. Co-editor with Wendy Cadge, Peggy Levitt and David Smilde. Oxford University Press.

2012. *What Matters? Ethnographies of Value in a Not So Secular Age*. Co-editor with Ann Taves. Columbia University Press.

2010. *After Pluralism: Reimagining Religious Engagement*. Co-editor with Pamela Klassen. Columbia University Press.

### **Articles and chapters**

Forthcoming. “New York’s 1920’s Religious Horizons.”

2022. “Keeping it all at Bay.” For *The Abyss, or Life is Simple*. (Eight authors, A Knausgaard Reading and Writing Collective). University of Chicago Press

2022. “Mrs. Rockefeller’s Exquisite Corpse.” *Comparative Studies in Society and History*. 64 (3).

2021. “America Is Hard To See,” for the volume *At Home And Abroad: The Politics of Religion in America*, edited by Elizabeth Shakman Hurd and Winnifred Fallers Sullivan. New York: Columbia University Press.

2017. “How and Why to Study Up: Frank Lloyd Wright’s Broadacre City and the Study of Lived Religion” *Nordic Journal of Religion and Society*. 29 (2): 100-116.

2017. “Reencarnação na América do Norte: histórias e práticas das religiões metafísicas” (“Reincarnation in North America: The Histories and Practices of Metaphysical Religions”) in *Espiritualidade e espiritismo: reflexões para além da religiosidade*. André Ricardo de Sousa, Pedro Simões, Rodrigo Toniol, eds. Sao Paulo: Porto de Ideias.

2016. “Every Meaning Will Have its Homecoming Festival”: *A Secular Age* and the Senses of Modern Spirituality.” Pp. 283-306 in *Working with A Secular Age*, Florian Zemmin, Colin Jager, and Guido Vanheeswijck eds. Berlin: DeGruyter Publishers.

2015. "Spirit," for *Rethinking Therapeutic Culture* edited by Trysh Travis and Timothy Aubry. University of Chicago Press.

2015. "The Power of Pluralist Thinking" for *After Religious Freedom*, edited by Elizabeth Shakman Hurd, Winnifred Fallers Sullivan, Saba Mahmood, and Peter Danchin. University of Chicago Press.
2013. "Pluralism and Secularism," for the volume *Religion on the Edge: New Directions in the Sociology of Religion* edited by Courtney Bender, Wendy Cadge, Peggy Levitt, and David Smilde. Oxford University Press.
2012. "Things of Value," coauthored introductory chapter to *What Matters? Ethnographies of Value in a Not So Secular Age* edited by Courtney Bender and Ann Taves., Columbia University Press.
2012. "Things in their Entanglements," for the volume *The Post-secular in Question* edited by Philip S. Gorski, John Torpey and David Kyuman Kim. New York University Press.
2012. "Practicing Religion," chapter nine of *The Cambridge Companion to Religious Studies* edited by Robert Orsi. Cambridge University Press.
2011. "Past Practices – Ethnography and American Religion" Religion and American Culture 21: 259-278.
2010. "Habits of Pluralism," coauthored introductory chapter to *After Pluralism: Reimagining Religious Engagement* edited by Courtney Bender and Pamela Klassen, Columbia University Press.
2008. "How Does God Answer Back?" Poetics: A Journal of Empirical Research on Culture, the Media and the Arts 36: 476–492.
2007. "American Reincarnations: What the Many Lives of Past Lives Tells Us About Contemporary Spiritual Practice." Journal of the American Academy of Religion 75/3: 589-614.
2007. "Touching the Transcendent: On the Status of Religious Experience in the Sociological Study of Religion" Pp. 201-218 in Nancy T. Ammerman, ed. Everyday Religion: Observing Modern Religious Lives. Oxford University Press.
2006. "From Alleged Buddhists to Unreasonable Hindus: Assessing The Impact of Post-1965 Religious Pluralism on First Amendment Jurisprudence." with Jennifer Snow. Pp. 181-208 in Stephen Prothero, ed. A Nation of Religions: The Politics of Pluralism in Multireligious America. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press. (First author)
2006. "Constructing Buddhism(s): Interreligious Dialogue and Religious Hybridity." with Wendy Cadge. Sociology of Religion 67/3: 229-247. (Equal co-author)
2004. "Yoga and Rebirth in America: Asian Religions are Here to Stay" with Wendy Cadge. Contexts 3/1: 45-51. February 2004. (Equal co-author).  
Reprinted in *The Contexts Reader*. Jeff Goodwin and James Jasper, editors. New York: W.W. Norton and Company, 2007.
2004. "Religious Innovations Among New York's Muslim Taxi Drivers." with Elta Smith. Pp. 76-97 in Tony Carnes and Fenggang Yang, eds. Asian American Religions: Borders and Boundaries. New York: New York University Press. (First author)
1998. "Bakhtinian Perspectives on Everyday Life Sociology." In Michael M. Bell and Michael Gardiner, eds. Bakhtin and the Human Sciences. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.

1997. "Place, Process and Practice: Perspectives on Changes in the Character of Mennonite Spirituality." Pp. 123-130 in Stephen Longenecker, ed. The Dilemma of Anabaptist Piety. Bridgewater, VA: Forum for Religious Studies.

1994. "Praying for the Saints: Single Mennonite Charismatics and the Conundrum of Community." Pp. 225-50 in Robert Wuthnow, ed. I Come Away Stronger: How Small Groups are Shaping American Religion, Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans.

1992. "Mennonites and the Worship Center: Community Change and a Charismatic Context in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, 1968 to 1990." Pennsylvania Mennonite Heritage 15/4: 17-29.

### **Reviews and other publications**

Forthcoming. "Touch me" for *Noli Me Tangere*. Jeremy Biles and Winnifred Fallers Sullivan, eds. Indiana University Press (Manifold).

2021. "Seeing Religion in Urban Planning," for the Interface forum "Rethinking Religion and Secularity in Urban Planning," *Planning Theory and Practice*. 22 (2): 39-44.

2021. "Neoliberalism and Ambient Apocalypse," with Todne Thomas. *The Immanent Frame*.

2020. "Enchantment" for A Universe of Terms. *The Immanent Frame*.

2019. "Everyday Infinity." Exhibition Concept Proposal. Co-authored with Carter Foster and Kazumi Tanaka, for the Shaker Museum Mt. Lebanon.

2019. Introduction to a book review panel "Modernity's Resonances" featuring volumes by Emily Ogden, Susan Lepselter, Pamela Klassen, and Graham Jones. *The Immanent Frame*. January.

2018. "Boundless Complicity." Book review of Melani McAlister *The Kingdom of God Has No Borders* for *Immanent Frame*. August.

2017-18. "Is this all there is?" Co-editor with Nancy Levene. One-hundred-entry web forum in celebration of the tenth year of the *Immanent Frame*, Social Science Research Council, New York.

2017. "Flesh and Blood Atheists." Book review of Leigh Eric Schmidt *Village Atheists* and Bonnie Anderson *The Rabbi's Atheist Daughter* for Reviews in American History.

2014. Book review of *The Healing Gods: Complementary and Alternative Medicine in Christian America*. Church History.

2014. "The Architecture of Multifaith Prayer" fourteen-part digital portal for *Reverberations*, published by the Social Science Research Council. <http://forums.ssrc.org/ndsp/category/the-architecture-of-multi-faith-prayer/>

2013. "Hallucinations/Getting it Right." *Practical Matters*. Candler School of Theology, Emory University.

2012. Book review of *Digital Jesus: The Making of a New Christian Fundamentalist Community on the Internet*. Contemporary Sociology.

2012. "Mapping a Field: Why and How to Study Spirituality." Co-authored with Omar McRoberts. Social Science Research Council Working Paper.

2007. "Religion and Spirituality: History, Discourse, Measurement." Social Science Research Council Forum: The Religious Engagements of American Undergraduates. <http://religion.ssrc.org/reforum/>
2006. Book review of *Sacred Circles, Public Squares: the Multicentering of American Religion*. Arthur Farnsley, N.J. Demerath, Etan Diamond, Mary Mapes and Elfriede Wedam. *American Historical Review*. 111/5: 1537.
2006. Book review of *Elusive Togetherness*. Paul Lichterman. *Social Forces*. 84/3: 1850-1852.
2006. Book review of *Born Again Bodies: Flesh and Spirit in American Christianities*. R. Marie Griffith. *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*. 45: 300-1.
2005. Book review of *Religion in America Since 1945*. Patrick Allitt. *Church History* 74: 419-21.
2005. Book review of *Congregations in America*. Mark Chaves. *Social Forces*. 83/4: 1785-1786.
2004. "Spiritual Sisters? Catholic and Buddhist Nuns in Interreligious Dialogue" Executive Report to the Monastic Interreligious Dialogue. With Wendy Cadge.
2004. Book review of *Thin Politics, Thick Moralities: Social Integration Across Communities of Belief*. Benjamin Gregg. *Contemporary Sociology* 33/3: 371-2.
2003. Book review of *Feminist Narratives and the Sociology of Religion*. Nancy Nason-Clark and Mary Jo Neitz, eds. *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*. 42/3: 489.
2002. "Mennonite" entry in the *New International Dictionary of Pentecostal and Charismatic Movements*. Stanley Burgess, ed. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan.
2000. "'You Meet So Many Different People Here!': Deciphering Volunteer Appraisal of Diversity and its Consequences." Program on Non-Profit Organizations Working Paper No. 259. New Haven: Yale University.
1999. Book review of *Congregation and Community* Nancy Ammerman, Arthur Farnsley et al. *Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Quarterly*. 28/1: 100-102.
1999. Book review of *Women Against the Good War; Conscientious Objection and Gender on the American Home Front*. Rachel Goossen. *Mennonite Quarterly Review* 73/2.
1998. Book review of *Disquiet in the Land: Cultural Conflict in American Mennonite Communities*. Fred Kniss *American Journal of Sociology*. 104/2: 530-1.
1995. "The Meals are the Message: The Growth and Congestion of an AIDS Service Organization's Mission in Multiple Institutional Fields." Program on Non-Profit Organizations Working Paper No. 221. New Haven: Yale University.
1995. Book review of *Vanishing Boundaries: The Religion of Mainline Protestant Baby Boomers*. *Contemporary Sociology* 24/ 2: 183-4.

## **FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS AND AWARDS**

2017. Lenfest Distinguished Columbia Faculty Award.

2015. Alice Eckhardt Visiting Scholar in Residence. Department of Religion, Lehigh University.

2011-2015. "New Directions in the Study of Prayer." Advisory Committee Chair. Social Science Research Council supported by the John Templeton Foundation. Full program award to SSRC:.

2008-2010. "Spirituality, Political Engagement and Public Life." Working Group co-chair. Social Science Research Council and the Ford Foundation.

2006. Small Project Grant. "Teaching and Researching New York City Religions." Wabash Center for Theological Inquiry.

2006. MacDonald Summer Fellow. Columbia University.

2006-08. Faculty Fellow. Cognitive and Textual Methods Project. Center for the Study of Religion, Princeton University. PI: Robert Wuthnow.

2005-06. Young Scholars in American Religion Fellow. Center for the Study of Religion and American Culture, IUPUI.

2004. Research Grant. Society for the Scientific Study of Religion. "Spiritual Sisters? Catholic and Buddhist Nuns in America"

2003. Chamberlain Fellowship for Junior Faculty. Columbia University.

2002. Junior Faculty Development Leave. Columbia University.

2002. Junior Faculty Summer Research Grant. Columbia University.

2001. Seed Grant. Institute for Social and Economic Research and Policy. Columbia University.

1998-2001. Visiting Fellow. Yale University Program on Non-Profit Organizations.

1998-2000. Research Grant. Program on Non-Profit Organizations, Yale University. PI: Richard Wood.

1999. Ursula M. Niebuhr Lectureship in American Religion. Barnard College.

1998. Research Grant. Program on Non-Profit Organizations, Yale University. PI: Peter Dobkin Hall. Funded by the Kellogg Foundation.

1995-1996. Dissertation Fellowship. Louisville Institute for the Study of Protestantism and American Culture. Louisville, KY.

1995. John D. Rockefeller 3rd Graduate Fellow. Program on Non-Profit Organizations, Yale University. New Haven, CT.

1992-1995. Graduate Research Fellow. Center for the Study of American Religion, Princeton University.

1992. Research Grant. Institute for the Study of American Evangelicals, Wheaton Illinois. For the project "Pentecostal Currents in the Mainstream Church." Funded by the Lilly Endowment.

1991. Jesse Holmes Prize in Religion, Swarthmore College.

## PRESENTATIONS

2022. "Elemental Religion." Co-presentation with Pamela Klassen. American Society for the Study of Religion. Annual Meetings. Chicago, IL. (April) – postponed from 2020.

2020. "Perspective." Keynote research address, workshop on Material Secularisms. University of Pennsylvania. February.

2019. "Faith Shines Equal/the Cold War secular sublime" Panel presentation, US Intellectual History Association Annual Meeting. New York. November.

2019. "The Air We Breathe." Center for the Study of Religion, Ohio State University. October.

2019. "Mrs. Rockefeller's Exquisite Corpse." Workshop Presentation, *Museums and the Work of Reconciliation and Remembrance*, A Religion & Public Memory (RPM) at the W. Michael Blumenthal Academy of the Jewish Museum Berlin. May.

2019. "Out of This World or, When is Religion Out of Place?" Invited address. Memorial University of Newfoundland Religious Studies Symposium, "Religion Out of Place." April.

2018. "Excavating Modernism: Traces of American Pluralism in Twentieth-Century Urbanism" American Society for the Study of Religion Annual Meeting. April.

2018. "Modern Dreams of the Religious Future: The World of Tomorrow, the Air Globe, and Other Fables of Spiritual Unity" Keynote address, Religious Studies Graduate Conference Brown University. March.

2017. "Ecstatic Geographies: Feeling Spiritual in Broadacre City" Workshop presentation, *Pious Technologies and Secular Designs*. Columbia University Society of Fellows and GSAPP. October.

2017. "No Horizon." Workshop presentation, *Anthropology Within and without the Secular Condition*. Graduate Center-CUNY. September.

2017. "America is Hard to See." Workshop presentation, *Politics of Religion at Home and Abroad*. Northwestern University and Indiana University-Bloomington. May.

2016. "A Brief History of the 'Religion of the Future.'" Keynote address, "Ways of Knowing: Graduate Conference on Religion at Harvard Divinity School." Harvard University.

2016. "Against Well-Being?" Plenary lecture, Nordic Conference for the Sociology of Religion, Helsinki, Finland.

2016. "Secular Uses of Aerial Religion" Plenary lecture, Ian Ramsey Centre for Science and Religion conference "A Post-Secular Age? New Narratives in Religion, Science, and Society." St Anne's College, Oxford University.

2016. "Rethinking the 'Technological Sublime': Wright's Urban Planning and Secular Uses of Religion." Institute for Advanced Studies, University College London.

2016. "Locating Contemporary Spirituality: New Thoughts on the Changing American Landscape." Harold and Doris Durfee Lecture. American University.
2016. "Category Errors: On Rivera, Rockefeller, and Religion" Yale University Center for the Study of Material and Visual Cultures of Religion.
2015. "Studying Up: The Skyscraper View and Modern Perspectives on American Religion." Alice Eckhardt Visiting Scholar in Residence Public Lecture. Lehigh University.
2015. "Studying Up: The Skyscraper View and Modern Perspectives on American Religion" Syracuse University, Department of Religion.
2014. "The Work of Art in an Age of Inarticulate Religion." Indiana University, Department of Religion.
2013. "The Prayers of Tomorrow: Building the Temple of Religion at the 1939-1940 New York World's Fair" Presentation at the conference *Prayer, Architecture, History*. Zentrum Moderner Orient, Berlin.
2013. "Secular Temples." Presentation to the Princeton University Sociology workshop in Culture and Inequality.
2013. "What's Old and Social about the New Spirituality – and Why it Matters to Sociology" Invited thematic panel. American Sociological Association Annual Meetings, New York.
2013. "Secular Temples." Centre for Religion and Contemporary Society, University of Kent.
2013. "Secular Temples: Some Preliminary Observations." Workshop on Religion and its Others. Programme for the Study of Religion and Non-Religion. London School of Economics.
2012. "The Power of Pluralist Thinking: How the Idea of Religious Freedom Persists." Osgoode School of Law, York University. Toronto.
2011. "Spirituality in the American Grain: From Shoveling Fog to Power Spots." Northwestern University Department of Religion.
2011. "Spirituality in the American Grain: From Shoveling Fog to Power Spots." Franklin and Marshall College, Annual Kahn Lecture.
2010. *The New Metaphysicals* book panel. Panelists: Kathryn Lofton, Leigh Schmidt, J. Terry Todd. Princeton University Center for the Study of Religion.
2010. *After Pluralism* book panel. Panelists: Craig Calhoun, Winnifred Fallers Sullivan, J. Terry Todd, Janet Jakobsen, Rosemary Hicks.
2010. "When (and How) Did Spirituality Become Autonomous?" Brandeis University Department of Sociology.
2010. "Locating Contemporary Spirituality." Duke University Department of Religion.
2009. "Locating Contemporary Spirituality." Boston University Department of Sociology.
2009. "Things in Their Entanglements." Yale University Macmillan Center conference "Exploring the Postsecular."



2008. "'... And Every Meaning Shall Have Its Homecoming Festival': *Secularism* in an Enchanted Age." Symposium on Charles Taylor's *A Secular Age*. Yale University. (invited lecture)
2008. "Things in their Entanglements: Rethinking Contemporary American Spirituality." Samuel D. Maloney Lectures in Religion and Society, Davidson College. (invited lectureship)
2007. "Becoming Mystics: Experience and Account in Contemporary American Spirituality" University of California San Diego Department of Sociology. (invited lecture)
2006. "Religion and Spirituality: History, Discourse, Measurement." Social Scientific Research Council Seminar Series, New York, New York. (invited lecture)
2006. "Wild-Type Religion." Thematic session, "Identifying Boundaries in Social Research." American Sociological Association Annual Meeting. Montreal.
2006. "American Reincarnations." Harvard University Religion and Ethnography Group. (invited talk)
2006. "Revisiting Religious Experience." Eastern Sociological Society Annual Meeting. Boston.
2005. "Wonder." Society for the Scientific Study of Religion Annual Meeting. Rochester, New York.
2003. "Interpretive and Relational Practices in Contemporary Spirituality." University of Chicago Divinity School. (invited lecture)
2003. "Religion in Events." Center for the Study of Religion, Princeton University. (invited lecture)
2002. "The Position of the Sacred in Contemporary Alternative Medicine." Center for the Study of Science and Religion, Columbia University. (invited lecture)
2002. "Visions of the Moral Life." Paper presentation at the *Festschrift* for Donald K. Swearer and J. William Frost. Swarthmore College Department of Religion, Swarthmore Pennsylvania. (invited lecture)
2002. "The Elusive Subject: Studying Religion in Non-Religious Institutions" American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, Toronto.
2002. "New York's South Asian Muslim Taxi Drivers as Religious Innovators: The Challenges of Daily Practice and Their Challenge to the Study of New Immigrant Religions" Association for the Sociology of Religion Annual Meetings, Chicago.
2001. "Hints Followed by Guesses: Interpreting Religious Talk in Daily Life." Loyola University of Chicago. (invited lecture)
2001. "You Meet So Many Different People Here': Deciphering Volunteer Appraisal of Diversity and its Consequences." New York Non-profit Network. Rockefeller Brothers Fund Offices, New York New York. (invited lecture)
2000. "Deciphering Volunteer Appraisal of Diversity and its Consequences." Yale University Program on Non-Profit Organizations.
1999. "You Meet So Many Different People Here: What Volunteering Might Mean For Citizenship in the Twenty-first Century." Thematic Session, American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Chicago.

1997. "Food is Love? The Hazards of Calling Cooking for People with AIDS Religious Practice." Paper presentation at the American Academy of Religion Annual Meetings, San Francisco.
1997. "Religion, Spirituality and Practice: Beyond the Institutional/Individual Divide." Paper presentation at the American Sociological Association Meetings, Religion Section Session, Toronto.
1996. "Contagion and Contamination: Practical and Methodological Hazards of Defining Cooking for People with AIDS a Religious Practice." Paper presentation at the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion Annual Meeting. Nashville, TN.
1996. "Social Movement Organizations and Cultural Congestion: The Case of God's Love We Deliver." Paper presentation at the American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Culture Section Roundtables. New York, NY.
1996. "God is in the Details: Religion, AIDS, and Daily Practice." Presentation at the Faculty Lunch Series, Department of Sociology and Anthropology. Swarthmore College, Swarthmore PA. (invited lecture)
1995. "'Whatever Work I Do Here -- It's as Though I'm Praying'" Paper presentation at the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion Annual Meeting. St. Louis, MI.
1995. "'Work is Prayer': Religion, AIDS, and Daily Practice. " Paper presentation at the American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Regular Session, Religion. Washington D.C.
1994. "Interpreting Stories in Two Mennonite Charismatic Congregations." Presented at the conference, Pentecostal Currents in the American Church. Fuller Theological Seminary, Pasadena, CA. Sponsored by the Institute for the Study of American Evangelicals.
1993. "Mennonites and Charismatics: Exploring Locations of Power in Congregations." Presented at the conference, Anabaptists and Power: Its Use and Abuse, Elizabethtown College, PA.

### Invited public panelist

- Panel: "Spirituality and the Art Museum in Contemporary America," Freer Gallery and Sackler Galleries, National Museum of Asian Art, Smithsonian Institute. August 2020.
- Panel: "Religious Architecture in the City: Transatlantic Perspectives." NYU Deutsches Haus and the Consulate General of the Federal Republic of Germany and University Alliance Ruhr. (canceled).
- Panel: "Spaces of Dignity – Spaces of Plurality." Sponsored by the Consulate General of the Federal Republic of Germany and University Alliance Ruhr. Moderator (December 2019).
- Book Panel: *Credulity: A Cultural History of US Mesmerism*, Emily Ogden. Heyman Center for the Humanities, Columbia University. (April 2018).
- Book Panel: *Spirit in the Dark*, Josef Sorett. Heyman Center for the Humanities, Columbia University. (February 2017).
- Visiting Speaker. NEH Summer Institute, "Problems in the Study of Religion." University of Virginia. (June 2016).
- Book Panel: *Race and Secularism in America* ed. Vincent Lloyd and Jonathon Kahn. Heyman Center for the Humanities, Columbia University (April 2016).
- Book Panel: *Summoned: Identification and Religious Life in a Jewish Neighborhood*. Iddo Tavory. Institute for Public Knowledge, NYU (March 2016).

- Book Panel: *Religion, Secularism, and Constitutional Democracy*, ed. Cécile Laborde and Jean Cohen. European Institute, Columbia University (February 2016).
- Book Panel: “Author Meets Critics: *After the Wrath of God: AIDS, Sexuality and American Religion*.” Social Science History Association Annual Meeting (November 2015).
- Panelist: Winnifred Fallers Sullivan, “The Church’s Two Bodies: Exploring the Incomplete Secularization of the American Churches.” Yale Seminar on Religious Studies (October 2015).
- Panelist: “Religion and Society: Disciplinary Perspectives in Religious Studies.” Stanford University Department of Religious Studies (May 2014).
- Panelist: Respondent to Robert Wuthnow “Polls Surveys and the Shaping of American Religion” Princeton University Danforth Lecture (December 2013).
- Public Panel: “I’m So Spiritual.” Battle of Ideas and the NY Salon (October 2012).
- Book panel: *Spirits of Protestantism* by Pamela Klassen. Center for the Study of Religion, Princeton University (February 2012).
- "Spirituality in America." The University of California Santa Cruz, Department of History. (2011).
- "Changing Contours of American Religiosity." Public panel with Claude Fischer and John Torpey at the Center for the Humanities, CUNY Graduate Center. (February 2010).
- "Religious Liberty and the American Creed." Fulbright Institute on the Civilization of the United States. New York University. (June 2007, 2009, 2010).
- “Rethinking Secularism: A Series of Public Dialogues.” Public panel at NYU, with Ann Taves and Craig Calhoun. Sponsored by NYU and SSRC. (March 2008).
- “Sacred Landscapes.” Presentation to the University Seminar on New Media Teaching and Learning. (February 2008).
- “Religion, Secularism and Higher Education.” Public panel at Vassar College, with Rajeev Bhargava and Neil Gross. Sponsored by the Teagle Foundation and SSRC. (September 2007)
- "Are We Living in a Post-Secular World? A Working Meeting on Social Science and the 'Return' of Religion." Sponsored by CUNY Graduate Center and the Social Science Research Council. New York (June 2007).
- "Can There Be a Social Science of Spirituality? A Working Meeting on Religion, Secularity and Spirituality." Sponsored by the Social Science Research Council and the School for Advanced Research. Santa Fe, New Mexico. (May 2007).
- "Summer Institute on Religion in U.S. History" sponsored by the United States Information Agency and the Fulbright Commission. New York University (1999).

### Conference organizer

American Society for the Study of Religion Annual Meeting. Co-host Rachel McDermott. April 2017.

“The Religion of Karl Ove Knausgaard,” Institute for Religion, Culture, and Public Life, Columbia University 2016-2017; Indiana University Bloomington 2018-2019; University of Bergen 2019. With Winnifred Fallers Sullivan and Joshua Dubler.

“Why Prayer?” Two-day conference at Columbia University sponsored by the Social Science Research Council. February 2015.

"Spirituality, Political Engagement and Public Life: The State of the Field." Two-day conference at Columbia University sponsored by the Ford Foundation and the Social Science Research Council. Co-organized with Omar McRoberts. Columbia University. June 2011.

“After Pluralism: Imagining Models of Interreligious Engagement.” Three-part conference at the University of Toronto and Columbia University, 2007-2008. <http://www.columbia.edu/cu/afterpluralism>

"Opportunities at the Edge: Expanding the Boundaries of the Sociology of Religion" Two-day conference at Princeton University. Jointly organized with Wendy Cadge, Peggy Levitt, and David Smilde, and sponsored by the Center for the Study of Religion, Princeton University. November 2008.

### **Association membership and activities**

American Academy of Religion:

Academic Relations Committee 2012-2015

"Religion and Cities Consultation" steering committee 2006-2011

"Sociology of Religion Group" steering committee 2012-

American Sociological Association:

Section on the Sociology of Culture Council Member 2007-2010

Section on the Sociology of Religion Distinguished Book Award Committee, 2006-08

Religion Regular Sessions Organizer, 2006

Section on Religion Nominations Committee, 2000-2001

American Society for the Study of Religion. Elected to membership 2010.

Executive Committee 2014-2017