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Education

Ph.D. Philosophy, Purdue University, 1997

M.A. Philosophical Theology, Yale University (Magna Cum Laude), 1991

B.A. Philosophy and Social Work, University of Maryland Baltimore County (Magna Cum Laude), 1988

Publications

Books

- *Rethinking Human Nature: A Christian Materialist Alternative to the Soul* (Baker Academic, 2006)
- *Incurably Human* (Popular Book In Process)
- *Christ and (Postmodern) Culture: Critically Engaging the Emerging Church* (Baker Academic, Spring 2011). Co-authored with : Scot McKnight, Peter Rollins and Jason Clark.

Edited Books

- *Soul, Body and Survival: Essays on the Metaphysics of Persons*, (Cornell University Press, 2001)

Authors include: John Foster, Eric Olson, Jaegwon Kim, Timothy O'Connor, Charles Taliaferro, Stewart Goetz, William Hasker, Brian Leftow, E.J. Lowe, Lynne Baker, Trenton Merricks, John Cooper, Stephen T. Davis and Kevin Corcoran.

Refereed Articles in Journals

12. "I'm No Soul, Man," *Religious Studies* 42 (2006) 431-437.

11. "Material Persons, Immaterial Souls and an Ethic of Life," *Faith and Philosophy* 20 (2003) 218-228.
10. "Dualism, Materialism and the Problem of Post Mortem Survival", *Philosophia Christi* 4 (2002) 395-409. Reprinted in *Arguing about Religion* (Routledge, 2009).
9. "In Our Own Defense: A Response to Our Critics", with Kelly James Clark *Rhetoric and Public Affairs* 4 (2001) 711-716
8. "The Trouble with Searle's Biological Naturalism," *Erkenntnis* 55:3 (2001) 307-324
- 7 "Physical Persons and Resurrection without Temporal Gaps," in *Soul, Body and Survival: Essays on the Metaphysics of Persons*, Kevin Corcoran, ed; (Cornell University Press, 2001)
6. "Soul or Body?," introduction to *Soul, Body and Survival: Essays on the Metaphysics of Persons*, Kevin Corcoran, ed; (Cornell University Press, 2001)
5. "Pluralism, Secularism and Tolerance" (with Kelly James Clark), *Rhetoric and Public Affairs* 4 (2000) 627-639.
4. "Experiencing God" *Sophia* 38 (1999) 116-143
3. "Persons, Bodies and the Constitution Relation," *Southern Journal of Philosophy* 37 (1999) 1- 20
2. "Persons and Bodies," *Faith and Philosophy* 15 (1998) 324-340.
1. "Is Theistic Experience Phenomenologically Possible?," *Religious Studies* 32 (1996) 449-461

Chapters in Books

5. "Constitution, Resurrection and Relationality," (forthcoming in *How Do We Survive our Death?* (Georg Gasser, Editor)
4. "Dualism, Materialism and the problem of Postmortem Survival," in *Arguing About Religion* (Routledge, 2009; ed. Kevin Timpe)
3. "A Constitution View of Persons and Relational Ontology", forthcoming
2. "A Constitution View of Persons," in *In Search of the Soul: Four Views of the Mind-Body Problem*, Joel B. Green and Stuart L. Palmer, eds; (InterVarsity Press) 2005. Other contributors are Stewart Goetz, William Hasker and Nancey Murphy.
1. "Biology or Psychology: Human Persons and Personal Identity" in *About Human Persons* (Ontos Verlag: Frankfurt and London, 2003) 67-88.

Book Reviews

A review of William Hasker's *The Emergent Self* (Cornell University Press, 1999) in *Christian Scholars Review* 30:2 (Winter 2000).

Articles for Popular Audiences

- "New Way to Be Human" in *Books & Culture* (November/December 2006)
- "Dark Thoughts," in *Books in Culture* (June 2005).

Papers Presented to Professional Societies

- “A Critique of Francis Beckwith’s *Defending Life*,” Evangelical Theological Society annual meeting in San Diego, CA, November 2007.
- “Material Persons, Immaterial Souls and an Ethic of Life,” Pacific Division Meeting of the Society of Christian Philosophers, Westmont College, Santa Barbara, CA, April 2001.
- "Experiencing God," Annual Conference of the Metaphysical Society of America, University of South Carolina, March 1998
- "Persons, Bodies and Bodiless Worlds," Midwest Regional Meeting of the Society of Christian Philosophers, Calvin College, April 1997 -- Earlier version presented at the Fall Meeting of the Indiana Philosophical Association, Purdue University, October 1996
- "Is Theistic Experience Phenomenologically Possible?," Midwest Regional Meeting of the Society of Christian Philosophers, Bethel College, April 1995 -- Earlier version presented to the Fall Meeting of the Indiana Philosophical Association, October 1994

Invited Papers and Presentations

- “Persons, Bodies and Relationality: A Constitution View,” Hope College, November 2009 and Seattle Pacific University, November 2009.
- “Pluralism and Tolerance: Religious, Political and Moral,” Renmin University, March 2009.
- “Dualism, Materialism and the Prospects of Postmortem Survival,” Renmin University, March 2009
- “Constitution, Resurrection and Relationality,” Plenary Address, University of Innsbruck, Austria; international conference titled "How do we survive our death? The quest for personal identity and resurrection" cosponsored by the philosophy and theology faculty at the University of Innsbruck and the Metanexus Institute, June, 2008
- “Pluralism, Relativism and Tolerance,” Zhejiang University, China, March, 2008
- “Dualism, Materialism and the Prospects of Postmortem Survival,” Zhejiang University, China, March, 2008
- “Love, Loss and Lament: Augustine and Jesus on Friendship,” Aquinas College, Grand Rapids, MI, November 2007
- “Personal Identity and the Constitution View of Persons: A Critique of Baker”, Oakland University, October 2006.
- “The Constitution View of Human Persons and Relational Ontology,” Point Loma Nazarene College, *After Dualism* Conference, Summer 2005
- “Human Persons and Ethics at the Margins of Life,” Inaugural Evelyn Mast Barker Memorial Lecture, University of Maryland Baltimore County, April 2004.
- “Western Views of Human Nature: Souls, Bodies and Soul-Body Unions. Xiamen University Philosophy Department; Xiamen, China, October 2003.
- “Contemporary Western Views of Human Nature: Emergentism and Constitution,” Xiamen University Philosophy Department; Xiamen, China, October 2003.

- “Human Persons or Human Animals: How are Persons and Bodies Related?”, Christian Perspectives in Science Seminar, Calvin College, October, 2001.
- “Materialism, Dualism and the Problem of Post Mortem Survival,” 48th Annual Wheaton Philosophy Conference, October 25-27 2001
- “Biology or Psychology?” *Workshop: Soul, Body and Freedom* Calvin College, sponsored by Calvin Center for Christian Studies
- “Human Persons and Personal Identity,” Purdue University Philosophy Colloquium, Spring 2001
- “Human Animals and Human Persons” *Humans Conference*; Gordon College Summer, 2000 sponsored by the Council for Christian Colleges and Universities.
- "Persons, Bodies and Immortality," Monmouth College, January 1999.
- "Persons and Bodies," University of the Pacific, February 1999
- "Varieties of Resurrection of the Body," Hillsdale College, February 1999
- "Physicalism and Belief in the Resurrection," Northwestern College, February 1999
- "Dualism, Materialism and Constitution," Gordon College, April 1998
- "Anselm and the Ontological Argument for the Existence of God--Again," Florida Southern College, February 1997

Referee for the following Academic Journals and Presses

Australasian Journal
Faith and Philosophy
Erkenntnis
Journal of Consciousness Studies
Cornell University Press
Canadian Journal of Philosophy

Academic Honors and Awards

- Lilly Vocation Fellowship; Grant to measure the spiritual-vocational impact of studying philosophy at Calvin (\$7000), 2004-05.
- Freeman Foundation; Grant to develop course on Buddhist conceptions of the self. (\$7000), 2002-03.
- Diekema Fellow, Spring 2003. This is part of a Calvin Research Fellowship that grants release time from teaching in order to carry out research.
- Calvin Center for Christian Scholarship Grant to host Philosophy of Mind Workshop in Spring 2001. (\$18,000)
- Council for Christian Colleges and Universities Initiative Grant to Research Human Nature and Human Freedom, 2000-2003 with Bill Hasker (Huntington College), Michael Murray (Franklin and Marshall College), Timothy O'Connor (Indiana University) and Dean Zimmerman (Rutgers); (\$20,000)
- Visiting Fellow, Notre Dame Center for Philosophy of Religion, 1996-97
- Hooker Graduate Fellowship, 1991 (Yale)
- Paul Holmer Scholarship, 1989-91 (Yale)

- Magna Cum Laude graduate, 1991 (Yale)
- Magna Cum Laude graduate, 1988 (Maryland)
- Phi Kappa Phi National Honor Society, 1987 (Maryland)
- Distinguished Student Award, philosophy, 1987 (Maryland)

Other Honors

- 2004 Honors Convocation Speaker. This honor is bestowed by the graduating class of honors students in the Calvin Honors Program.

Memberships

American Philosophical Association
Society of Christian Philosophers

Service

Calvin College

Symposium Liaison, 1997 – 2002, Fall 2005

-- Symposium is the undergraduate run philosophy club at Calvin. From 1997 – 2002 there were over 25 active participants. Each week an undergraduate student makes a 30 minute presentation on some topic of philosophic interest and fields questions pertaining to the presentation. The job of the liaison is to help keep the discussion at a satisfactory academic level and to generate interest in philosophy.

Reading Weekend, 1997 - 2002

-- Each year two philosophy faculty members accompany undergraduate philosophy majors on a weekend reading retreat. This is a weekend excursion during which all participants read the same philosophical text and discuss it.

Student Life Committee, 2000 - 2003

Core Curriculum Committee, 2003 - present

Areas of Specialization

Metaphysics, Philosophy of Mind, Philosophy of Religion

Areas of Competence

Modern Philosophy
Ethics
Asian Philosophy (developing)

Positions

Calvin College, Assistant Professor, Fall, 1997- 2003; Associate 2003 - present

Introduction to Philosophy
Introduction to Logic
Ethics
Seminar in Modern Philosophy
Metaphysics: Self and World
Minds, Brains and Persons
Pluralism, Relativism and Tolerance
Soul, Body and Survival: Various Views