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EDUCATION

- Ph.D.** May 1992. The Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C. Major in American Politics. Minor in Political Theory. Dissertation on factionalism in the modern Republican Party, particularly as exhibited in the U.S. Congress.
- M.A.** February 1988. The Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C. American Politics, with emphasis in Congressional Studies.
- M.T.S.** May 1984. Wesley Theological Seminary, Washington, D.C. Theological Studies. Honors thesis on environmentalism and Reformed Christian worldview.
- B.A.** May 1979. Hope College, Holland, Michigan. Mathematics *magna cum laude*.

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

Calvin College, Grand Rapids, Michigan

September 2004 – present

Professor of Political Science. January 2007 – August 2008 as William Spoelhof Teacher-Scholar-in-Residence. July 2005 – January 2007, on leave to Hope College.

September 2000 – August 2004

Associate Professor of Political Science. September 2002 – August 2004 as Interim Director, Calvin College Center for Social Research.

September 1995 – August 2000

Assistant Professor of Political Science. September 1997 – August 2002 as Program Director, Paul B. Henry Institute for the Study of Christianity and Politics.

Hope College, Holland, Michigan

July 2005 – January 2007

Founding director of the Leadership Program and Professor of Political Science

Marymount University and Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C. area

September 1991 – May 1995

Various short-term part-time appointments as lecturer in political science (Marymount University) and politics (Catholic University of America)

NON-ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT**January 1995 - August 1995**

Administrative Assistant, U.S. House Majority Leader. In this role I served as a major political and legislative advisor to Richard K. Armey, the Majority Leader of the U.S. House of Representatives. I staffed a long-range strategic planning group for the House majority party leadership. I also managed a personal staff of approximately fifteen persons combined in Washington, D.C. and district offices.

February 1994 - December 1994

Senior Economist, Joint Economic Committee, U.S. Congress. In this position I wrote congressional publications on economic issues, particularly fiscal policy and health care policy, for use by members and staff of the U.S. House of Representatives and Senate. Other issue specialties included congressional organization and procedures. One important contribution was the package of congressional reform ideas presented in fall 1994 by House Republicans.

January 1993 - February 1994

Chief of Staff, U.S. Representative Peter Hoekstra, (MI-2). As the chief of staff to a new member of Congress, I organized congressional offices in Washington, D.C. and western Michigan. This included hiring and evaluating approximately fifteen staff persons, budgeting, workflow management, and similar matters. I was also the congressman's chief political and legislative advisor in his transition and first year in office.

July 1990 - January 1993

Professional Economist, Acting Staff Director, and then Director of Minority Research and Deputy Staff Director, Joint Economic Committee, U.S. Congress. I wrote articles and provided economic policy advice to Republican members of the U.S. House and Senate, particularly members of the committee. As acting staff director from November 1990 through March 1991, I hired and managed a twelve-person staff of professional economists and support persons. As director of research and deputy staff director (March 1991-January 1993), I managed and edited committee projects and publications and served as assistant press secretary. My major research areas were health care policy, the flat income tax, and federal "luxury" taxes.

September 1989 - January 1981

Various positions with members of and candidates for the U.S. House, namely Fred Upton (Michigan) from early 1987 through 1989, the late Paul Henry (Michigan) from mid 1984 through early 1987, Larry Winn (Kansas) from late 1982 through mid 1984, and Paul Findley (Illinois) through late 1982. My major issue area in all these offices was the federal budget.

ACADEMIC SERVICE, GRANTS, AWARDS, HONORS, AND FELLOWSHIPS**Calvin College****Research and Scholarship**

Calvin Center for Christian Scholarship/Calvin Alumni Association. Academic year 2011-2012. \$10,000 for leadership of faculty-alumni reading group on civil public discourse. McGregor Fellow Project, Summer 2010. \$4,000 total value of stipend and undergraduate assistant for research on faith-based initiatives.

Sabbatical leave, 2009-2010 academic year. Research time for book on faith-based initiative. Bradley Foundation, 2009-2010. Co-recipient of a follow-on \$75,000 grant for the study of religion and civic responsibility, managed by the Henry Institute at Calvin College.

Bradley Foundation, 2007-2008. Co-recipient of a follow-on \$97,000 grant for the study of religion and civic responsibility, managed by the Henry Institute at Calvin College.

Bradley Foundation, 2006-2007. Co-recipient of \$75,000 grant for the study of religion and civic responsibility, grant managed by the Henry Institute at Calvin College.

William Spoelhof Teacher-Scholar-in-Residence, January 2007 – August 2008. Endowed chair providing release time for research, publication, and student engagement.

Center for Social Research research funding, Summer 2003. Funding for summer research assistant investigating presidential rhetoric and religious language.

Sabbatical leave, 2002-2003 academic year. Research for book on faith-based initiatives.

Calvin Center for Christian Scholarship Working Group co-leader, 2002-2003 academic year. *The Role of Communities of Faith in Sustaining a Just Society.*

McGregor Fellow Project, Summer 2002. \$4,000 total value of stipend and undergraduate assistant for research on faith-based initiatives.

Calvin Center for Christian Scholarship, 2000. \$5,700 for an edited volume of the political writings of the late U.S. Representative Paul B. Henry.

McGregor Fellow Project, Summer 1999. \$3,500 total value of stipend and undergraduate assistant for survey research project on religion and politics.

Calvin Alumni Association Grant, 1999. \$2,400 for survey on religion and politics.

Fund for Improvement of Teaching, Summer 1998. \$1,000 award toward development of a semester in Washington, D.C. program.

Calvin Research Fellowship, 1998-99. One course reduction for research on Congress.

Calvin Summer Seminar in Christian Scholarship, Summer 1997. \$2,500 summer stipend to participate in seminar entitled “Globalization and Inequality.”

Formal College Service

Board Member, Calvin College Center for Social Research. Fall 2011 – present.

Faculty Fellow, Calvin Admissions Department. 2011-2012 academic year. One course teaching reduction to provide assistance to college admissions and enrollment efforts.

Faculty Senate, 2011-2012, 2010-2011, 2009-2010, 2008-2009, 2004-05, and 2000-02 academic years. Parliamentarian for 2004-2005 and 2001-2002 academic years.

Football Feasibility Task Force, Mission chair. 2010-2011 and 2011-2012 academic years.

Search Committee, Dean for Arts, Languages, and Education, Fall 2008.

Planning Committee for new fitness/wellness center, 2005-2007.

Student Judicial Appeals Committee, 2004-05.

Committee on Committees, 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 academic years.

McGregor Summer Scholars Committee, 1999 through 2005 academic years. This is the “matching” committee for funded summer social science and humanities research.

Interim Director, Calvin College Center for Social Research, 2002-2004. Selected by provost to redirect and reorganize this pre-existing research center.

Program Director, Paul B. Henry Institute for the Study of Christianity and Politics. 1997-2002. Selected by the provost to provide initial program leadership to this new institute.

Informal College Service

Admissions. Regular participant in student recruitment events on and off campus.

Advancement. Frequent participant in campaign events with major and minor donors.

Alumni. Regular participant in alumni events involving fundraising, student recruitment, updates on college or political and events. Includes participation in alumni-faculty reading groups on leadership (2007-08), the economic crisis (2009), and civility (2011-2012).

Media Relations. Through Calvin’s Media Relations office, I am a frequent source for local, state, and national media outlets regarding the full range of political issues.

Parent Relations. I have given teaching and research talks to Calvin’s Parent Council.

CALL, Calvin Academy of Lifelong Learning. Frequent speaker and short-course instructor.

The Catholic University of America

Thomas Vernon Moore Scholarship (three years full tuition), 1989 - 1991.

Wesley Theological Seminary

Received honors designation for thesis (for Masters of Theological Studies degree) that investigated a Reformed Christian approach to environmental issues, 1984.

Hope College

As faculty, was founding director, Center for Faithful Leadership, 2005-2007. Gave budgetary, organizational, and program shape to a new leadership program, coordinating with existing curricular and co-curricular programs and creating advisory boards. Also taught First Year Seminar, Senior Seminar, and political science courses.

As student, 1979 Otto Van Der Velde Award (all-campus), 1978 Alan Kinney Award (football), Pi Mu Epsilon (Math honors), Mortarboard, National Merit Scholar.

PROFESSIONALLY RELATED SERVICE

White House Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives (WHOFBCI). Volunteer, February 2008 – June 2008. Developed with central and departmental FBCI offices the program and content for conclusive WHOFBCI research conference June 26-27, 2008 in Washington, D.C.

Christian Reformed Church in North America, Leadership Consultation. Board member, November 2007 – September 2009. Conceptualize and operationalize new leadership program for church and community leaders within denomination.

Friends of Transit and Faith in Motion. Consultant, February – November 2006. Provided intensive consultation on financing, messaging, and GOTV strategy for successful grassroots ballot committee in Holland, Michigan pursuing an expanded local millage for public bus transit funding.

Search for Common Ground. Senior associate, June 2001 – January 2002. Provided subject matter expertise for broad-based interest group coalition in Washington, D.C. concerning faith-based policy issues. Many group recommendations became the basis for later congressional and executive branch action in Bush and Obama administrations.

House Republican Conference. Legislative fellow, January 2001 - June 2001. Supported the House Republican Conference Chair, U.S. Rep. J.C. Watts, Jr., on faith-based legislation and strategy.

Republican National Convention, 2000. Instructor for the Washington Center for Internships and Academic Seminars, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, July 22 – August 4, 2000.

Christians in Political Science. *Communications Director* (and *ex officio* officer), 2004 – 2008.

American Political Science Association, Religion and Politics Section. *Newsletter editor* (and *ex officio* officer) September 1999 – August 2002.

Pat Miles Sr. for Grand Rapids City Commission, Campaign treasurer, June – November 1997.

PUBLICATIONS**Books authored and co-authored**

Understanding American Politics, 2nd edition. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2013 (under contract), with Stephen Brooks and J. Matthew Wilson.

Religion and American Politics: Classic and Contemporary Perspectives. New York, NY: Pearson Longman, July 2010, editor with Amy E. Black and Larycia A. Hawkins.

The Disappearing God Gap? Religion in the 2008 Presidential Election, Oxford University Press, 2009, with Corwin Smidt, Kevin denDulk, James Penning, Stephen Monsma, and Brian Froehle.

Pews, Prayers, and Participation: Religion and Civic Responsibility in America. Georgetown University Press, 2008, with Corwin Smidt, Kevin denDulk, James Penning, and Stephen Monsma.

Of Little Faith: The Politics of George W. Bush's Faith-Based Initiatives. Georgetown University Press, April 2004, with Amy E. Black and David K. Ryden.

Editor. *Serving the Claims of Justice: The Thoughts of Paul B. Henry*. The Paul B. Henry Institute for the Study of Christianity and Politics, April 2001.

Hostile Takeover: The House Republican Party, 1980-1995. Rowman and Littlefield. 1996.

Chapters in books

"The Obama Faith-Based Office: Continuity and Change," in Mark J. Rozell, ed., *Religion and the American Presidency*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan, January 2012.

"Religion and Public Policy" in *The Oxford Handbook on Religion and American Politics*. Corwin Smidt, Lyman Kellstedt, and James Guth, editors. New York, NY: Oxford, 2009.

"The Status of Faith-Based Initiatives In the Later Bush Administration," in Ann W. Duncan and Steven Jones, eds., *Church – State Issues in America Today, Vol. 1: Religion and Government*. Westport, Connecticut: Praeger, 2008.

"The Politics of Faith-Based Initiatives" (with Amy E. Black), in Mark J. Rozell and Gleaves Whitney, eds., *Religion and the Bush Presidency*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2007.

"Faith-Based Initiatives: An Essay on the Politics of Social Service Change," in Beryl Hugen, et al, eds. *Christianity and Social Work: Readings on the Integration of Christian Faith and Social Work Practice* (2nd ed.), Botsford, Connecticut: NAACSW, 2003.

"Volunteer Mentors in Social Welfare: Who They Are and What Happens When They Mentor", with Patrice Hudson Jonker, in David A. Sherwood, ed., *Charitable Choice: The Challenge and Opportunity for Faith-Based Community Services*, North American Association of Christians in Social Work, 2001.

"Religion and American Political Parties," in Corwin Smidt, ed. *In God We Trust?: Religion and American Political Life*, Grand Rapids, Michigan: Baker, May 2001.

"Paul Henry: A Model for Integrating Christian Faith and Politics," with Gary L. Visscher, in Timothy J. Demy and Gary P. Stewart, eds. *Politics and Public Policy: A Christian Response*, Grand Rapids, Michigan: Kregel, 2000.

Peer-reviewed articles

“The Republican Party,” in the *Encyclopedia of United States Political History: Volume 7, The Clash of Conservatism and Liberalism*, Washington, DC: CQ Press, 2010.

“Volunteer Mentors in Social Welfare: Who They Are and What Happens When They Mentor” *Social Work and Christianity* 27:2. (with Patrice Hudson Jonker). Fall 2000.

“Reformed Christian Scholarship and American Politics” *Christian Scholar's Review* 29:3, Spr. 2000.

“Reformed Christian Citizenship in America” *Reformed Review*, Vol. 50:1, Autumn 1996

Miscellaneous published writings and formal interviews

“Choosing Hope,” in *Perspectives: A Journal of Reformed Thought*, Vol. 25:9, November 2010, 3-4.

“I Wish Him Well,” in “Thoughts and Prayers, Hopes, and Fears for President Obama,” in *Perspectives: A Journal of Reformed Thought*, Vol. 24:1, January 2009, 7-8.

“Michigan GOP must court the ‘little guy,’” *Grand Rapids Press*, November 18, 2006. 13 A.

“Republicans Need to Court Michigan Interests,” *Detroit News*, November 14, 2004. 17A.

“Faith-based Initiatives,” interview with Ken Myers, *Mars Hill Audio Journal*, July/August 2004.

“Faith-based Effort Can Inspire Success,” *Detroit News*, June 10, 2001, 17A.

“Politics and Religion Among Project Zero Volunteer Mentors in Kent County, Michigan,” with Amy Leep. *Michigan Journal of Political Science*. Vol. 28, Spring 2000.

“From Vanguard to Workers' Paradise? Year One of a Republican House,” *APSA Legislative Studies Section Newsletter*, Vol. 11: 1, December 1995.

“The 1994 House Elections: A Republican Perspective,” *APSA Legislative Studies Section Newsletter*, Vol. 10: 1, December 1994.

“You Can Make A Difference,” *Church Herald* 49 (October 1992) 30.

Book reviews

“What Democrats Talk About When They Talk About God: Religious Communication in Democratic Party Politics,” Edited by David Weiss. *Journal of Church and State* 53:2 (Summer 2011).

“Charitable Choice at Work: Evaluating Faith-Based Job Programs in the States,” by Sheila Suesse Kennedy and Wolfgang Bielefeld. *Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Quarterly*, June 2008; 37: 373-76.

“The Diminishing Divide: Religion's Changing Role in American Politics,” by Andrew Kohut, John C. Green, Scott Keeter, and Robert C. Toth. *American Review of Politics* 21 (Fall 2000), 327-330.

“New Majority or Old Minority? The Impact of Republicans on Congress” by Nicol C. Rae and Colton C. Campbell, eds. *H-Net Reviews in the Humanities and Social Sciences*, at <http://www.h-net.msu.edu/reviews>. (June 1999)

“The Politics of Divided Government” by Gary Cox and Samuel Kernell, eds. in *Perspectives on Political Science* 23:3 (Summer 1994), p. 141.

LECTURES AND UNPUBLISHED WRITING

Formal lectures

“Employing Religious Arguments in Public Debates: The Perspective of Public Officials,” Lecture for Western Theological Seminary program, Holland, Michigan, October 13, 2008.

“Practicing a Politics of Repentance: Authentic Christian Politics After An Age of Arrogance.” Lecture for Paul Henry Institute for the Study of Christianity and Politics, Grand Rapids, Michigan, April 30, 2007.

“Starting Again at Ground Zero: Rethinking American Politics after 9/11,” Presentation at Calvin Midsummer event, July 18, 2002.

“Christians in Public Office: Opportunity or Obligation?” Lecture for Paul Henry Institute for the Study of Christianity and Politics, September 20, 2000.

“Right-sizing' the House?” Lecture for the Center for Economic and Policy Education, Saint Vincent College, Latrobe, Pennsylvania. March 4, 1998.

“The House Republican Party: An Assessment After One Term.” Lecture at the Southern Political Science Association annual meeting. November 1996.

“The House Under Republican Leadership: Changes by the New Majority,” American Political Science Association Annual Meeting; Chicago, Illinois, September 1995.

Conference papers

“Mainline Protestants and the 2008 Election,” paper presented at the Michigan Conference of Political Science, October 17, 2008, Ypsilanti, Michigan.

“Religion and Political Virtues,” paper presented at the Christians in Political Science research meeting, June 6, 2007, Wheaton, Illinois.

“Religion and Political Tolerance: Rethinking the Fundamentals,” paper presented at the Henry symposium on religion and politics, April 29, 2006, Grand Rapids, Michigan.

“Issues in Measuring Religion and Political Tolerance,” paper presented at Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, November 4, 2005, Rochester, New York.

“Religion and Political Tolerance,” paper presented at Michigan Conference of Political Science, October 21, 2005, Dearborn, Michigan.

“Bush’s faith-based initiatives,” paper presented at Religion and the Presidency conference, Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies, November 19, 2004, Allendale, Michigan.

“Who Cares?: The Senate’s Consideration of Faith-Based Legislation,” paper presented at the Michigan Academy of Arts and Sciences, March 21, 2003, Holland, Michigan.

“The Senate Debate on Faith-Based Initiatives,” paper presented at the Michigan Conference of Political Science, October 18, 2002, Lansing, Michigan.

“The House Journey of the Faith-Based Initiative,” paper presented at the American Political Science Association annual meeting, August 29, 2002, Boston, Massachusetts.

“Is this ‘Legit’?: Thinking Through the Legislative Path of Faith-Based Initiatives,” paper presented, Calvin Symposium on Religion and Politics, May 2002, Grand Rapids, Michigan

“Volunteer Mentors and Social Welfare: Who Are They? What Happens When They Mentor?” Michigan Conf. of Political Science, Dearborn, Michigan, November 5, 1999.

“Politics and Religion Among Project Zero Volunteer Mentors in Kent County, Michigan.” Michigan Conference of Political Science, Dearborn, Michigan, November 5, 1999.

“Religion and American Political Parties,” Christians in Political Science Biennial Meeting, Grand Rapids, Michigan, June 18, 1999.

“Remodeling the House.” Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, Illinois, April 1999.

“Project Zero Mentors in Kent County: Preliminary Data and Analysis.” Michigan Academy of Science, Arts, and Letters Annual Meeting; Allendale, Michigan, March 1999.

“The Call to Renewal: Goals and Strategies.” American Political Science Association Annual Meeting; Washington, D.C., August 1997.

“Is ‘Re-engineering’ Coming to the House?” Northeastern Political Science Association Annual Meeting; Boston, Massachusetts, November 1996.

“The House of Representatives Under Republican Leadership: Changes by the New Majority,” American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, Illinois, September 1995.

“The 1992 House Freshmen: Divided and Conquered.” Northeastern Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Providence, Rhode Island, November 1994.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Political Science Association, member and former section officer

Midwest Political Science Association, member

Christians in Political Science, member and former officer

PERSONAL

Monroe Community Church (CRC). Member 2007-present. Leadership team, 2008-2011.

CentrePointe Community Church (CRC). Member 1995- 2006. Leadership team, 2004-2006.

Married to Gayle Boss (Hope '79). Two sons, born in 1991 and 1996.

Interests: Team sports, running, outdoor recreational activities.