

Ruth E. Groenhout

Professor of Philosophy
1845 Knollcrest Circle SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49546-4402
o (616) 526-6412, h (616) 241-9244
rgroenho@calvin.edu

Education:

Ph.D. 1993 University of Notre Dame
Theoretical Approaches to Medical Ethics: Virtue and its Critics
W. David Solomon, Director
B.A. 1985 Calvin College (Philosophy & Bio/Chem group)

Professional Experience:

Professor of Philosophy
Calvin College, Grand Rapids, MI (2004 to present)
Associate Professor of Philosophy
Calvin College, Grand Rapids, MI (2000 to 2004)
Assistant Professor of Philosophy:
Calvin College, Grand Rapids, MI (1996 to 2000)
Southwest Missouri State University, Springfield, MO (1994-1996)
Spalding University, Louisville, KY (1993-1994)

Publications:

Books:

Bioethics: A Reformed Look at Life and Death Choices. (Grand Rapids, Faith Alive, 2009)
Transforming Care: A Christian Vision of Nursing Practice, Mary Molewyck Doornbos, Ruth E. Groenhout, and Kendra Hotz, (Grand Rapids, Eerdman's, 2005)
Connected Lives: Human Nature and an Ethic of Care. (Lanham, Mass.: Rowman & Littlefield, 2004).
Philosophy, Feminism, and Faith, Ruth Groenhout and E. Marya Bower, eds. (Indianapolis: Indiana University Press, 2003).

Essays and book chapters:

"The Difference Difference Makes: Public Health and the Complexities of Racial and Ethnic Research" *Feminist Bioethics: At the Centre, on the Margins,* Laurel Baldwin-Ragaven, Petya Fitzpatrick, and Jackie Leach Scully, eds. (Forthcoming 2009, Johns Hopkins University Press).
"The Love of God the Father: Agape and Masculinity" in *Agape*, Craig Boyd, ed. (Burlington, VT: Ashgate Publishers, 2008) 47-60.
"Not Without Hope: A Reformed Analysis of Sickness and Sin" *Christian Bioethics* Vol. 12 no. 2. (2006) 133-150.

- “Kenosis and Feminist Theory” *Exploring Kenotic Christology: The Self-Emptying of God*, C. Stephen Evans, ed. (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2006) 392-419.
- “Embodiment and the Nurse-Client Encounter: A Perspective from One Tradition”, co-authored with Kendra Hotz and Clarence Joldersma. *Journal of Religion and Health* 44:2 (Fall '05) 147-160.
- “Theological Echoes in an Ethic of Care” Occasional paper published by the Erasmus Institute, University of Notre Dame, November 2004.
- “Essentialist Challenges to Liberal Feminism” in *Social Theory and Practice*, vol. 28, no. 1, (January 2002) 51-75. Reprinted in *Analyzing Moral Issues*, 3rd Ed., Judith A. Boss, ed. (New York: McGraw Hill, 2004).
- “Reformed Perspectives in Bioethics” in *Religious Perspectives in Bioethics*, John F. Pepin, Mark J. Cherry, and Ana Iltis, eds. (New York: Taylor and Francis, 2004), pp. 79-96.
- “Care, Agape, and a Feminist Conception of the Self” Chapter 10 in *Philosophy, Feminism, and Faith*, Ruth Groenhout and E. Marya Bower, eds. Indiana University Press, 2003.
- “Are Your Insurance Premiums My Problem?” *The A.P.A. Newsletter on Philosophy and Medicine*. Vol. 00, no. 1 (Fall 2000).
- “Five Types of Dissent” *Journal of Peace and Justice Studies*. Vol 10, no. 1. pp. 95-113
- “Care Theory and the Ideal of Neutrality in Public Moral Discourse” *Journal of Medicine and Philosophy* Vol. 23 no.2 (April '98) pp.170-89.
- “The Virtue of Care: An Aristotelian Conception of an Ethics of Care” *Feminist Interpretations of Aristotle* C. Freeland, ed.(Pennsylvania State Press, 1997) pp.171-200.

Incidental Publications and Book Reviews:

- “Transgender and the Health Care Environment,” *Ethics in Formation* (January, 2008, pp. 2-10)
- Review of Caroline Simon, *The Disciplined Heart: Love, Destiny, and Imagination*, Paul Wadell, *Becoming Friends: Worship, Justice and the Practice of Christian Friendship*, Gilbert Meilander, *Friendship: A Study in Theological Ethics*, and Mother Mary Francis, *But I Have Called You Friends: Reflections on the Art of Christian Friendship* in *Christian Reflection*, 2008, pp. 89-93.
- Review of Celia Deane-Drummond’s *Genetics and Christian Ethics* in *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews*, Sept 19, 2006.
- “Nursing and Religious Identity” *Ethics in Formation*, (Newsletter of Medical Ethics Resource Network of Michigan), Vol 12, no. 5, Oct 06, pp 6-8.
- “Putting Policy into Practice: Non-Heart Beating Organ Donation” *Ethics in Formation*, (Newsletter of Medical Ethics Resource Network of Michigan), Vol 12, no.3, Jan 05, pp 1-6.
- Review of Allen Verhey’s *Reading the Bible in the Strange World of Medicine* in *Calvin Theological Journal* Vol. 40, no. 1, pp. 123-126.

Review of Claire Elise Katz's *Levinas, Judaism, and the Feminine: The Silent Footsteps of Rebecca* in *Hypatia* (published as on-line review on *Hypatia's* webpage).

"Terrorism" entry written for the *New Dictionary of Christian Apologetics*, C. Campbell-Jack and G. McGrath, eds. (InterVarsity Press).

Review of Mary Stewart Van Leeuwen's *My Brother's Keeper: What the Social Sciences Do (And Don't) Tell Us About Masculinity* in *Christian Century* (Dec. 2002).

Race, Reconciliation, and Reformed Perspectives, Sue Hasseler and Ruth Groenhout, eds. An in-house reader prepared with funds from the Calvin Center for Christian Scholarship.

Review of Joseph J. Kotva's *The Christian Case for Virtue Ethics* in *Christian Scholar's Review* Vol. 27, no. 3, (Spr. '98): 370-2.

Terminal Wean, Single Kidney Donor Protocol: "Rationale and Moral Concerns", with Tobias Meeker, St John's Regional Health Center, Institutional Ethics Committee.

Review of Genevieve Lloyd's *Being in Time: Selves and Narrators in Philosophy and Literature* in *Philosophy and Literature*, Vol.19, no.2, (Oct. 1995): 404-5.

In Progress

Essays and Book Chapters

"Bodies Touching Bodies: Levinas and Bioethics" under review at *Human Studies*.

"Conflicted Communities: Inclusion and Relational Identity in the Thought of Iris Marion Young" in progress

"Defining Parenthood: Reproductive Autonomy and the Meaning of Parenting" in progress

"Evidence Based Practice: An Ethical Analysis" in progress

Book Projects

On Love (Four chapters completed, rough draft)

Academic Grants, Awards, and Fellowships:

Nagel Institute Fellowship, "Cultures of Knowledge, East and West" (\$3850)

Calvin Center for Christian Scholarship, 2007-08: "Cosmopolitanism in a World of Clashing Faiths" working group. (\$5000)

Calvin Research Fellowships 2005, 2008 (three course reduction): awarded for work on *On Love*

Metanexus Local Societies Initiative Grant: Convener of Reading Group on "Nature and the Unnatural" 2005-06.

Calvin Summer Seminar 2004: "Works of Love: Scientific and Theological Perspectives on Altruism" Stephen G. Post, Director.

Asian Studies Grant Proposal, 2003. Grant proposal to fund travel and study time for preparation of an interim course on women in Chinese thought and literature. (\$5,500).

Erasmus Institute Carey Senior Faculty Fellowship, 2002-03. "Created to Care: The Augustinian Roots of an Ethics of Care."

Calvin Center for Christian Scholarship, 2002-05. "Transforming Care: A Reformed Vision of Nursing Practice." Kendra Hotz, primary author. A \$66,400 grant to put together a working team of Nursing Faculty, Theologians, and Philosophers to develop a comprehensive interpretation of nursing practice from a Reformed perspective.

Calvin Center for Christian Scholarship, 2001-02. "A Reformed Perspective on Health and Caring." (\$7,500).

Calvin Research Fellowship awarded for 2001-2002 school year for continuing work on *Created to Care: The Augustinian Roots of an Ethics of Care*.

Diekema Fellow: Calvin Research Fellowship awarded for 2000-2001 school year for work on *Created to Care: The Augustinian Roots of an Ethics of Care*.

Seminar in Christian Scholarship 2000. "Kierkegaard: A Man For All Disciplines," directed by C. Stephen Evans at Calvin College.

NEH Summer Seminar, 1999. *Morality and Society*, directed by Alan Wolfe at Boston University.

Calvin Center for Christian Scholarship, 1999-2000. *Care and the Christian Community: Reflections on an Ethic of Care Across the Disciplines* \$48,000 grant for a year-long, cross-disciplinary discussion of ethics of care. Primary author of grant, with Helen Sterk (CAS) and Jan Curry-Roper (Geography).

Calvin Summer Research Fellowship, 1998. "Care, Agape, and a Feminist Conception of the Self."

1997 Lilly Fellows Summer Program at Villanova University:
The Mission of the Religious University/College and the Public Theology of its Students

Summer Faculty Fellowship, Southwest Missouri State University (1995)

Dissertation Year Fellowship, University of Notre Dame (1992)

Presentations

Philosophical Presentations:

"Power and Evidence: A Feminist Analysis of Evidence-Based Practice" presented at FAB Biennial conference: "Voice, Power, and Responsibility in Health Care," Rijeka, Croatia. (September 2008).

"B(e)aring Autonomy: A Feminist Critique" at conference: Thinking With(Out) Borders: International Political Theory in the 21st Century, St Andrews, Scotland. (June 2008)

"Bioethics and the Social Structures of Medicine" Week long seminar presented at East China Normal University, Shanghai, China. March 2008.

"Evidence Based Practice: An Ethical Analysis" SUNY Upstate Medical University, Syracuse, NY. (January, 2008).

"Difficult Conversations: Transgender and Feminism" Panel presentation, Feminist Ethics and Social Theory Conference, Clearwater Beach, FL. (September 2007).

"Conflicted Communities: Inclusion and Relational Identity in the Thought of Iris Marion Young" Presented at 2007 Central APA, memorial panel in honor of Iris Marion Young (April 2007).

- “Ethics and the Caring Professions” Presented at Carlow College, Carlow, Ireland, (March 2005).
- “The Difference Difference Makes: Public Health and the Complexities of Racial and Ethnic Research” Presented at Feminist Approaches to Bioethics meeting in conjunction with the International Association for Bioethics, Sydney, Australia (October 2004).
- “Ethics of Care: An Introduction” Presented at Tsinghua University, Beijing, and Xiamen University, Xiamen, China (May 2004).
- “Care and Theology” presented at Xiamen University, Xiamen, China (May 2004).
- “Utility, Reason, or Care? The Difference Theory Makes in Evaluations of Human Genome Research” presented at the Beijing International Conference on Bioethics, Beijing, China, (January 2004).
- “Embodiment and the Nurse-Client Encounter: A Perspective from One Tradition” presented at Making Sense Of: Health, Illness, and Disease, St. Hilda’s College, Oxford, UK, (July, 2003).
- "Care, Justice, and the New Genetic Technologies" presented at the Feminist Approaches to Bioethics meeting during the Sixth World Congress of Bioethics, Brasilia, Brazil, (October 2002).
- "The Status of Women's Health in the U.S in 2002" presented at a panel at the Feminist Association for Bioethics meeting during the Sixth World Congress of Bioethics, Brasilia, Brazil, (October 2002).
- "Augustine and Levinas: Fathers of Care?" presented at "Engaging Traditions: Ontologies in Practice" Conference at the University of Virginia, (September 2002).
- "Kenosis and Feminist Theory" presented at the Kenotic Christology Workshop, Sponsored by the Calvin Center for Christian Scholarship. (May, 2002).
- “Feminism and Reformed Theology: A Response to Serene Jones” presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Theology and Continental Philosophy, held concurrently with the Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy (October, 2001).
- “Genetic Technologies and the Ethics of Care: Part One—Human Interventions” and “Part Two—Non-human Applications” presented at Xiamen University, Xiamen, China. (May, 2001).
- “Care Across the Disciplines” presented with Janel Curry (Dean for Research and Scholarship) and Helen Sterk (CAS), Calvin College, (March 2001).
- “Feminism and Abortion: Complicated Loyalties” presented at the Fifth World Congress of Bioethics in association with the Feminist Association for Bioethics at Imperial College, London, (September, 2000), Feminist Bioethics Conference, sponsored by the University of Iowa, (November 1999), and at Feminist Medical Ethics: Issues and Dilemmas Conference at Des Moines University, Des Moines (November, 1999)
- “Are Your Insurance Premiums My Problem?” Panel discussion on “Health Risks and Health Responsibility: What are the Ethical Issues?” at the Pacific American Philosophical Association meeting, (April, 2000).

- “From the Inside Out: Policy Issues for Women at Religiously Affiliated Colleges and Universities” with Helen Sterk (William Spoelhoff Teacher-Scholar Chair, Communication, Calvin College) and Margaret Bendroth (History, Calvin College). Presented at “Women’s Lives, Women’s Voices, Women’s Solutions: Shaping an Agenda for Women in Higher Education” a national teleconference at the University of Minnesota, (March, 2000).
- “Feminist Medical Ethics” Des Moines University, Des Moines (November , 1999).
- Comment: “Ethical Authority and Normative Dissent”: Response to Martin Estey’s discussion of Allan Gibbard’s *Wise Choices, Apt Feelings*. Central APA (April 1998).
- “Feminist Medical Ethics”, “Feminist Criticisms of IVF and Related Technologies” University of Osteopathic Medicine and Health Sciences, Des Moines (April, 1998).
- “Bodies Touching Bodies: Levinas and Bioethics” presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy (October 1997), at the Institute for Christian Studies (March 1998), and at “Face to Face with the Real World: Contemporary Applications of Levinas” at Walsh University, Ohio, (March 1999).
- “Ethical Dilemmas” (Co-presented with Paul Luce) Tenth Annual Cardiopulmonary Nursing Symposium, St. John’s Regional Health Center, Springfield, MO (April 1996).
- “Who Should Decide When Treatment Becomes Excessive?” Case Study presented at 11th Annual Medical Ethics Conference, University of Notre Dame, (March, 1996).
- “The Faculty’s Social Audit” Presented (with Professor Bert Helm and Professor Jon Moran) at American Association for Higher Education conference on faculty roles and rewards (January, 1996).
- “Arguments Against Abortion” presented at “Women and Ethics” conference sponsored by the World Council of Churches at the Ecumenical Center, Celigny, Switzerland (May 1995).
- “Two Paradigms for an Ethic of Care” Kentucky Philosophical Association (October 1993).
- “The Virtue of Toleration and Feminist Criticisms of Pornography” Calvin College (1993).

General Presentations

- Panelist, “Women and Careers”, organized by Gender Studies Program, Calvin College, (March, 2008).
- “Stitch ‘n Bitch and the Happy Hooker: Feminism and Women’s Handcrafts” Calvin College (February, 2007)
- Interviewed by WXMI, Fox News Grand Rapids on topic of health care for illegal immigrants, (January 2007).
- Appeared on the *Hannity and Colmes Show*, along with Professor Randall Jelks (History, Calvin College) to discuss the visit of President George W. Bush to Calvin College and the Faculty’s response. (May, 2005)

“Spiritual Resources for Nurses: Acute Care, Psych/Mental Health, and Community Nursing” Panel organizer and moderator. 2006 MERN Annual Meeting (May 2006).

Moderator for panel discussing the Terri Schiavo case from biological, legal, and ethical perspectives. Calvin College (April, 2005).

“Augustine and the Paradox of Embodiment” Calvin College, Kuyper Fellows Seminar. (October 2003).

Participant in panel discussion: “Teaching in the Humanities: Race and Gender in the Classroom.” Fall Conference for Faculty and Staff, Calvin College. (September, 2003).

Participant in teach-in discussion of the destruction of the World Trade Center (September, 2001).

Participant in panel discussion of Chief Justice Rehnquist’s scheduled appearance as commencement speaker, (May, 2001).

“Genetically Modified Agriculture” participant on *Calvin Forum*, (October 2000).

“Modesty and Fashion” participant on *Calvin Forum*, airing December, 1999)

“To Treat or Not to Treat: Who Has the Right to Decide?” Calvin College Noontime Series, (March 1998).

“Care Theory and Public Moral Discourse” Calvin Lunchtime Seminar, (November 1997).

“Embryo Research and Utilitarian Moral Reasoning” Calvin Biology Department Seminar, (September 1997).

“The Place of Religion in American Public Life”: Organized and moderated panel discussion for SMSU Annual Discussion Series (November, 1995).

“Virtual Fatherhood: How New Medical Technologies are Changing Conceptions of Fatherhood”: Organized and participated in panel discussion for SMSU Annual Discussion Series, (April 1995).

“Feminist Theology” SMSU Religious Studies Club (March, 1995)

Medical Ethics Experience:

Board member, Medical Ethics Research Network of Michigan (2005 to present)
 Vice President, 2007-08
 President, 2008-09

Member, Biomedical Ethics Committee, Spectrum Health, Grand Rapids, MI (2002-present)

Provided comments for Bethany Christian Services Roundtable on issue of embryo adoption (October 1997)

Member, Institutional Ethics Committee, St. John’s Regional Health Center, Springfield, MO (1995-96)

Ethics Advisor, Alliant Health Services, Louisville, KY (1993)

Member, St. Joseph Hospital Medical Ethics Advisory Board, South Bend, IN (1991)

Notre Dame Alumni Association Medical Ethics Conference
 Ethicist, (1999, 2002, 2003), Case presenter (1996)

Program Coordinator (1993).

Courses Taught:

Senior Seminar: The Liberal-Communitarian Debate	Fundamental Questions in Philosophy
Philosophical Anthropology	Writing Seminars: Thinking About Ethics
Philosophy of Gender	Philosophy and Human Nature
Feminist Philosophy	Independent Studies: Abortion and Public Policy
Health Care Ethics	The Liberal/Communitarian Debate
Social and Political Philosophy	Race, Gender, and Communication
Justice and the Common Good	Genetic Ethics
Business Ethics	
Ethics	

Professional and Community Service:

Professional Membership:

American Philosophical Association (1993 to present).
Member: Committee on the Status of Women (2005 to present)
Paper presentation, 2000; Paper respondent, 1997
Organized two panels for 2007 Pacific APA: “Women in Philosophy across the Career Span” Presenters: Elizabeth Minnich, Christina Bellon, Marya Bower, Christina VanDyke, Christine Koggel, “New Paradigms in Biology” Presenters: Lorraine Code, Carla Fehr, Lenny Moss. (April 2007).

Society for Women in Philosophy (1993-2002).

West Michigan Regional Laboratory Animal Care and Use Committee (2000—01).

Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy (1996-2002).
Moderator, 1996, 1998, 1999.
Paper presentation, 1997.

Society for Religion and Continental Philosophy (1997 to present)
Paper Presentation, 2001.

American Association of University Professors (1997-2000).
Chapter Secretary, (1998-2000).
Member of sub-committee formed to respond to Code of Conduct (1998).

International Association of Bioethics (2000 to 2004).

Feminist Association for Bioethics (2000 to present).
U. S. Membership Coordinator (2000-2005)
Advisory Board member and Website manager (2006 to present)
Paper Presentation, 2000, 2002, 2004

Association for Bioethics and the Humanities (2001-2003)
Member of Governing Board, Phil-Lit e-mail discussion group (1998-1999),
Responsible for formulating policy and making disciplinary decisions.

Reviews and editorial work:

Reviewer for *Hypatia*, *Christian Scholars Review*, *Journal of Medicine and Philosophy*, *Journal of Bioethics*, *Social Theory and Practice*, *APA Newsletter on Feminism* (Spanish manuscript).

Book manuscripts reviewed for: McGraw-Hill, Prentice-Hall, InterVarsity Press.

College Service:

Director of Semester in Ghana Program (Fall, 2006)

Department service:

Colloquium Czar (2005 to 2006))

Department Planning and Priorities committee (2005 to present)

Library and Scholarship Committee (2001)

Curriculum and Pedagogy Committee (1996 to 2000, 2001 to 2004)

Symposium Oversight Committee (1996 to 1999)

Reading Weekend Committee (Interim '98, Interim '99)

Personnel Committee (1996 to present)

Student Advising

College service:

Professional Status Committee (2004 to 2008)

Gender Studies Minor Oversight Committee (2000 to present)

Committee on Governance (1999 to 2001)

Faculty Senate, Departmental Representative (1999 to 2002)

Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (1997 to 2000)

Member, Governing Board, Paul Henry Institute (1998 to 2000)

Workshops:

Convener, with Darren Walhof (Political Science, Grand Valley State University) of working group on Cosmopolitanism funded by Calvin Center for Christian Scholarship (2007-08).

Facilitation Training with the Delta Strategy, Fall 2007.

Convener of reading group on Nature and the Unnatural in Biological Perspective. Group supported by a Metanexus Local Initiative Grant (2005-2006).

Participant in Habermas reading group supported by Calvin Center for Christian Scholarship grant (2001-2002 school year).

Convener of Nursing Ethics reading group supported by the Calvin Center for Christian Scholarship (2001-2002 school year)

Participant in CCCS group led by C. Stephen Evans to study "Kenotic Christology: Self-Giving Love and the Incarnation", (2001-2002 school year.)

Participant in Anti-Racism reading group supported by Calvin Center for Christian Scholarship grant, (2000-2001 school year).

Convened and participated in interdisciplinary workshop on medical ethics that developed a course proposal for an interdisciplinary course on medical ethics at Calvin College. (July '98)
Anti-Racism workshop (April '98).