Thomas Cattoi

Curriculum Vitae

2012-present Associate Professor in Christology and Cultures, Jesuit School of Theology at Santa Clara University (formerly Jesuit School of Theology at Berkeley)/Graduate Theological Union (Dwan Family Chair in Ecumenical and Interreligious Dialogue)
2006-2012 Assistant Professor in Christology and Cultures

Education

- STL, Jesuit School of Theology at Santa Clara University, 2011
- PhD in Systematic and Comparative Theology, Boston College, 2006
- MPhil in Social Studies, School of Slavonic and European Studies, London, 2002 (Thesis title: The experience of Lithuanian agricultural transition in 1990-2000: an assessment. Supervisor: Tomasz Mickiewicz)
- MSc in Economics and Philosophy, London School of Economics (LSE), 1996 (Extended paper title: General to Specific or Specific to General? The estimation of the consumption function in Hendry and von Ungern-Sternberg's 1983 *Econometrica* article. No supervisor)
- BA (Hons.) in Economics and Philosophy (PPE), Oxford University, 1995

Additional qualifications

• Licensed Psychotherapist in the State of California (LMFT 106457)

- MA in Integral Counseling Psychology, California Institute of Integral Studies, 2014
- Holder of *nihil obstat* from Congregation for Catholic Education (April 10th, 2018)

Books

- Seeking wisdom, embracing compassion: a Philokalic commentary to Tsong kha pa's 'Great Treatise', in "Christian Commentaries on non-Christian texts" Series (ed. Catherine Cornille, Peeters/Brill, 2024, forthcoming)
- With Devin Zuber (ed.), *Marina Abramovic and Religion: Presence and Absence* (Springer, New York, 2024, forthcoming)
- With Kevin Clarke (eds.), *Maximos the Confessor and the Latin tradition* (Leuven: Brill, 2024, forthcoming)
- With Brandon Gallaher and Paul Ladouceur (eds.), Eastern Orthodoxy and World Religions: The Theology and Practice of Interreligious Encounter in the Contemporary Christian East (Brill, 2023, forthcoming)
- With Carol Anderson (ed.), *Handbook on Buddhist-Christian Studies* (Routledge, 2022)
- With David Odorisio (ed.), Depth Psychology and Mysticism (Palgrave Macmillan, 2018)
- With Christopher Moreman (ed.), *Death, Dying and Mysticism* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2015)
- Theodore the Stoudite: Writings on Iconoclasm and the Spiritual Life (Ancient Christian Writers 69. New York, N.Y./Mahwah, N.J.: Newman/Paulist Press, 2014)
- (ed.), Many Tongues, One Spirit: Local Ecclesiologies in Dialogue (Solstice Press, 2013)
- With June McDaniel (ed.), *Perceiving the Divine Through the Human Body: Mystical Sensuality*, (Palgrave Macmillan, 2011)
- Divine Contingency: Theologies of Divine Embodiment in Maximos the Confessor and Tsong kha pa (Piscataway, N.J.: Gorgias Press, 2009)

Articles

- "What has Chalcedon to do with Lhasa? John Keenan's and Lai Pai-Chiu's reflections on classical Christology and the possible shape of a Tibetan theology of incarnation," *Buddhist-Christian Studies* (Vol. 28, 2008), 13-26.
- "The incarnate Logos and the *rūpakāya*: towards a comparative theology of embodiment", *Religions East and West: Journal of the Institute of World Religions* (Issue 8, October 2008), 109-131.
- Introduction to Scott W. Hodgman, *Striving for Authentic Identity: Personal Transformation and Christian Appropriation of Yoga* (Saarbruecken, Germany: VDM Verlag Dr. Mueller, 2008), 3-11.
- "Picturing Bodies: Sacred Images and Transformative Practice in Byzantium and Tibet", *Journal of Interreligious Dialogue*, Issue 2, Oct. 2009, 38-46.

- "The symphonic church: Chalcedonian themes in Maximos the Confessor's liturgical theology," *Studia Patristica* 2010, Vol. XLVIII, 123-9.
- "Why Images? Visualized Deities and Glorified Saints in Vajrayāna Buddhism and Patristic Theology", *Journal of Philosophy and Education*, Salesian Institute of Philosophy in India, October 2010, 55-75.
- "Basil of Caesarea's *De Spiritu Sancto* and *Haexameron*", introductory chapter to the Chinese translation of these two works published by Zhejiang University Press, Hang Zhou, China, 2010 (published in Chinese translation), 3-15.
- "Salvific asymmetry: anhypostasy and icon veneration in Theodore the Studite's Antirrhetici", in *Studia Patristica* 2011, Vol. LI, 181-94.
- "The Virtues of Sensuality", in *Perceiving the Divine Through the Human Body: Mystical Sensuality* (Palgrave McMillan, 2011), 223-36.
- The Empty Throne: Religious Imagery and Presence in Byzantine and Tibetan Art, in *Journal of Interreligious Dialogue*, Issue 15, Sept. 2012, 1-13.
- "Normative Texts and Multiple Meanings: Rescuing Alternative Voices in Origen's and Tsong kha pa's Approaches to Scriptural Interpretations", *Religion East and West* (Issue 11, October 2012), 62-76.
- An Evagrian ὑπόστασις? Leontios of Byzantium's understanding of subjectivity in Contra Nestorianos et Eutychianos, in Studia Patristica 2013, Vol. LXVIII, 133-47.
- "Liturgy as cosmic transformation: Maximos' *Mystagogia* and the Chalcedonian redemption of difference", in Pauline Allen and Bronwen Neill (eds.), *Oxford University Handbook of Maximus the Confessor* (OUP, 2014), 414-437.
- "The Relevance of Gregory of Nyssa's *Ad Ablabium* for Catholic-Orthodox Ecumenical Dialogue on the Trinity and the Church", in Khaled Anatolios (ed.), *The Holy Trinity in the Life of the Church* (Holy Cross Studies in Patristic Theology and History. Grand Rapids, Mich.: Baker Academic, 2014), Ch. 11, 183-98
- "The Ocean of Forgiveness: Grace and Eschatology in Terrence Malick's *The Tree of Life*", in Stephen Murray and Aimee Upjohn Light (eds.), *God and Popular Culture: A Behind the Scenes Look at the Entertainment Industry's Most Popular Figure* (Praeger Publishers, 2015), 61-76
- "Ars Moriendi after Kant's turn to the subject", in Thomas Cattoi and Christopher Moreman (eds.), Death, Dying and Mysticism: The Ecstasy of the End (Palgrave Macmillan, 2015), 1-14
- "Ground and Manifestation: a Christian Reading of the Kun-byed Rgyal-po in Conversation with Origen's De Principiis", in You Bin (ed.) Acts of the October 2014 Minzu University Conference on Interreligious Dialogue, Minzu University, Beijing, 2015, 15-27
- "Saints from the Margin: Rescuing Tradition through Hagiography in the lives of Sylouan the Athonite and Milarepa", in Kerry San Chirico and Rico Monge (eds.), *Hagiography in Abrahamic and Dharmic Traditions: Manifesting Sanctity and Truth* (Bloomsbury, London, 2016), 169-85.

- Entries for *Apostles' Creed*, *Athanasian Creed*, *Christology*, *Trinity* in Eric Orlin et al. (eds.), *Routledge Encyclopedia of Ancient Mediterranean Religions* (New York and London, 2016)
- "The Teaching Logos: Christology and Tropology in Theophylact of Ochrid's Interpretation of New Testament Parables", in Jane Beal (ed.), *Illuminating Jesus in the Middle Ages* (Brill, 2019), 100-114
- "Icons, deities, and the three transcendentals: deification and post-Kantian holiness in Byzantium and Tibet", in *Buddhist-Christian Studies*, Vol. 36 (2016), 149-65
- "Flawed Subjectivities: Cyril of Alexandria and Mahāyāna Buddhism on Individual Volition, Sin, and Karma", in *Buddhist-Christian Studies*, Vol. 37 (2017), 29-41
- "Why Nicaea? Classical Trinitarian Theology and the Development of New Doctrinal Formulas", in Frank J. Papatheophanis (ed.), *The Nicene Creed: Studies in Comparative Christianity* (San Diego, University of Saint Katherine Press, 2017), 40-65
- "Reading Ignatius in Kathmandu: Towards a New Pedagogy of Interreligious Dialogue", in Alex Hwang and Marc Pugliese (eds.), *Teaching Interreligious Encounters* (AAR/OUP series, 2017), 208-220.
- "Why read the Church Fathers? Teaching Nicaea as Contextual Theology", in Eduardo Fernandez and Deborah Ross (eds.), *Doing Theology as if People Mattered: Encounters in Contextual Theology* (New York, Crossroads, 2019), 41-58
- "Apatheia and āśrayaparavrtti: meditation and epistemic purification in the Philokalia and Yogācāra Buddhism," in Elizabeth Harris and John O'Grady (eds.), *Meditation in Buddhist-Christian Encounter: A Critical Analysis* (Muenich: Sankt Oktilien ed., 2019), 349-69
- "Introduction" (with David Odorisio) and "Rescuing Alexandria: Depth Psychology and the Return of Allegorical Exegesis", in *Depth Psychology and Mysticism* (Palgrave, 2018), 3-16 and 19-36
- "Ippolito Desideri and the Universality of Aristotelian Rationality: a Model or a Hindrance?", in *Buddhist-Christian Studies*, Vol. 38 (2018), 69-83
- Entries on "Orthodox Christianity" (750 words) and "Metanoia" (1000 words) in David Leeming (ed.), *Encyclopedia of Psychology and Religion* (New York: Springer, 2019)
- "Holy Anger, Holy Wrath: The Role of Anger and the Emotions in early Christian spirituality and the Mahāyāna Buddhist tradition", in *Buddhist-Christian Studies*, Vol. 39 (2019), 53-67
- "Towards a new Ecological Vision: An Interreligious Reflection on *Laudato Si'*," in Lucinda Mosher et al. (eds.), *Deep Understanding for Divisive Times: Essays Marking a Decade of the Journal of Interreligious Studies*, (Newton center, Mass.: Paraclete Press, 2020), 39-45
- "Pussy Riot and Chōgyam Trungpa: Reinventing Crazy Holiness in Post-Modernity," *Journal for Dharma Studies* (2020) 3 (1), 59-70
- "Challenging women: female wisdom figures and spiritual progress in the *Shepherd of Hermas* and Tibetan Buddhism," with Jean-François Racine, in *Journal of Interreligious Studies* 32 (2021), 76-89

- "Conclusion", concluding essay in Jon R. Kershner (ed.), *Quakers and Mystricism:* Comparative and Syncretic Approaches to Spirituality (Cham, Switzerland: Palgrave/Springer, 2019), 241-9
- Preface to Tito Casini, *The Torn Tunic* (Brooklyn, N.Y.: Angelico Press, 2020), ix-xvii
- "Theoria physikē and the Brahma-sūtra: the rediscovery of the cosmotheandric dimension in the work of Thomas Merton and Raimon Panikkar," in David Odorisio (ed.), Merton and Hinduism (Fons Vitae, 2021), 180-196
- "Transformation or Rediscovery? Soteriological and Cosmological Themes in the *Lotus Sutra* and the Philokalic Tradition," in *Buddhist-Christian Studies*, Vol. 40 (2020), 122-36
- "Demons, Toll-Houses and the *bardo*: Patristic and Tibetan reflections on Individual Destiny After Death," in Elisabeth Harris and Perry Schmidt-Leukel (eds.), *Lynn A. de Silva and the Prospects of Buddhist-Christian Encounter* (Muenich: Sankt Oktilien ed., 2020), 357-78
- "Interreligious *lectio divina*: reflecting on the Transfiguration with Maximos the Confessor and the *Bhagavad Gītā*," in *Teaching Religion and Theology* (2020), Vol. 23.I, 44-48
- "Ethnic' and 'convert' Buddhists in the West and Buddhist-Christian dialogue', in Fr. Indunil Kodithuwakku (ed.), *Building a Culture of Compassion: Essays Celebrating 25 years of the Vesakh Message to Buddhists* (Urbaniana University, Rome, 2020), 281-96
- The Deified Cosmos: Maximos the Confessor and Sylouan the Athonite on the Deification of the Natural Order and the Love of Self', in Purushottama Bilimoria and Rita Sherma (eds.), *Sustainable Societies: Interreligious and Interdisciplinary Responses* (Sophia Studies in Cross-Cultural Philosophy of Traditions and Cultures. New York: Springer ed., 2022, 181-7
- "A Tibetan epektasis? Gregory of Nyssa's understanding of spiritual progress and the Gelug pa teaching on the four Buddha bodies," in Carol Anderson and Thomas Cattoi, *Handbook on Buddhist-Christian Studies* (London and New York: Routledge 2022), 367-79
- "Mount Tabor and Milarepa: a reflection on the Transfiguration mystery and the Buddha's glorified bodies," in Thomas Cattoi, Brandon Gallaher and Paul Ladouceur, Eastern Orthodoxy and World Religions: The Theology and Practice of Interreligious Encounter in the Contemporary Christian East (Brill, 2023, forthcoming)
- "The Jesus Prayer and Deity Mantras: the Athonite *Imiaslavie* Teaching and Tibetan Visualization Practices," in *Buddhist-Christian Studies*, Vol. 41 (2021), 22-36
- "Insubstantial mystery: the role of ἐνυπόστατος in the Christology of John Damascene",
 Studia Patristica Vol. CXXX (2021), Vol. 27, 159-70
- "Merits, demons and karma: Catholic victim souls and the Tibetan practice of gCod," in *Buddhist-Christian Studies*, Vol. 42 (2022), 201-17
- "Sounds of the end: music and eschatology in Messiaen's 'Quartet for the End of Time' and the Tibetan practice of *chod*", in *Journal of Interreligious Studies* Issue 30, April 2023

- "Transcending the letter, awakening the mind: Maximos the Confessor, Tsong kha pa and the challenge of textual supersessionism," in Muhammad Shafiq (ed.), *Mystical Traditions: Approaches to Peaceful Coexistence* (Springer, 2023), 151-68.
- "Byzantine fractals? Perry Schmidt-Leukel's approach to religious pluralism, Haribhadra, and Gregory Palamas' essence-energies distinction" in *Journal of Interreligious Studies* Issue 29, Jan. 2023, 30-43
- 'The Christian God and Buddhism', encyclopedia entry in Asle Eikrem (ed.), *T&T Clarke Encyclopedia of theology* (2022)
- 'Nondual heresy or clear insight? The *imiaslavie* controversy on Athos and Nyingma Buddhological reflection in Tibet,' in Jon Paul Sydnor and Jen Wade (ed.), *Nondualisms: An Interreligious Exploration* (Lexington Press, 2023), 127-45
- "Towards a New Liturgical Personalism: the *Mystagogy* and Neo-Scholastic Reductionism" in Fr. Maximos Constas and Tikhon Pino (eds.), Proceedings of the 2022 Cambridge symposium on Maximos' *Mystagogy* (title to be determined) (Washington DC: CUA, 2023, forthcoming)
- "The 'dry path of detachment': Julius Evola's Doctrine of Awakening and the interpretation of Buddhism in Fascist Italy," in John Grady and Martin Roetting (eds.), *Euro-Buddhism and the Role of Christianity* (Muenich: Sankt Ottilien, 2023, forthcoming)
- "The human and the cosmic: Christological interpretations of the liturgy in Thomas Aquinas and Maximos the Confessor," in Thomas Cattoi and Kevin Clarke (eds.), *Maximos the Confessor and the Latin tradition* (Leuven: Brill, 2023, forthcoming)
- "Christian Deification: dialogue with the *dharma* religions" in Andreas Hofer OP and Matthew Levering (eds.), *Oxford Handbook of Deification* (Oxford: OUP, 2023, forthcoming)
- "Attention, spiritual perception, and performance: Philokalic elements in the work of Marina Abramovic" in Thomas Cattoi and Devin Zuber, *Marina Abramovic and Religion: Presence and Absence* (Springer, New York, 2023, forthcoming)
- "Composition and asymmetry: Christ's dynamic subjectivity and its implications for Catholicity and ecclesial diversity," in *Modern Theology* (special issue on Catholicity), 2023 forthcoming
- "Il Tabor e il dharma: la soteriologia cristiana orientale e la teologia comparata dell'incarnazione", in Paolo Trianni (ed.). *Interreligious and Intercultural investigations* (2022/3) (Rome: Gregorian University Press, 2024)
- "Deification and psychedelics: altered states, sacraments, and mystical transformation," in Stuart Sarbacker (ed.), *Journal of Contemplative Studies*' Special issue on "Psychedelics, Contemplation, and Religion," Fall 2023
- "Noetic boredom: acedia and samsaric distraction in the Philokalia and Tibetan Buddhism," in Andreas Elpidorou and Josefa Ros Velasco (eds.), *History and Philosophy of Boredom* (Routledge, 2024, forthcoming)

Future Papers

- "Transformative vision: Theodore the Studite and the theology of visual perception," in Marcus Plested (ed.), *Spiritual Perception Project* Vol. 3 (Oxford University Press, 2024)
- "Perry Schmidt-Leukel's contribution to Buddhist-Christian dialogue and Eastern Christian theology", in Madlen Krueger (ed.), *Festschrift for Perry Schmidt-Leukel* (prov. title- Muenich: Sankt Ottilien, 2024)
- "Buddhism in Italy; between Mission and Postmodernity," in Knut A. Jacobsen and Jorn Borup (eds.), *Handbook of Buddhism in Europe* (Brill, 2024)
- "Action, praxis and compassion: traces of engaged mysticism in the Philokalia and Tibetan Buddhism" in David Odorisio (ed.), *Mysticism at the Margins* (Palgrave, 2024)

Current book project

Letters from Asia: Correspondence by 17th and 18th century Christian Missionaries from the Fabronian Library in Pistoia (Brill)

Languages

- Italian (native speaker), English, German, French, Russian, Lithuanian, Latin, Classical Greek
- Working knowledge of Sanskrit, Polish, Modern Greek
- Some Hebrew and Classical Tibetan

Teaching Record at the Jesuit School of Theology and the Graduate Theological Union

- Christ, Krishna Buddha (Fall 2006, Fall 2008, Fall 2012, Fall 2015). An introduction to the different theologies of divine embodiment developed in early Christianity, Vaiśnavite Hinduism, and Tibetan Buddhism.
- Systematic Theology and Critical Theory (Fall 2006). An exploration of contemporary trends within systematic theology in relation with post-modern and post-colonial thought.
- *Theology of Revelation* (Spring 2007, Fall 2008). A systematic study of the Christian understanding of revelation and a survey of this concept within Islam, Hinduism, and Buddhism.
- *Christology: Ancient, Modern and Contemporary* (Spring 2007, Spring 2008, Spring 2010, Fall 2011, Fall 2014, Fall 2016, Spring 2019, Fall 2020 online, Fall 2023). A development of Christological doctrine from the beginning to the present, with a special focus on the challenge posed to traditional Christology by religious pluralism.
- Mariology (Fall 2011). An overview of the development of Mariological doctrine (Newhall course); taught again as Mariology in Dialogue (Fall 2018, Fall 2021, Spring 2024)
- *Philosophy for Theologians* (Spring 2007). An introductory philosophy course for MDiv students.
- *Theology of Religions* (Fall 2007, Fall 2010). An exploration of different theological approaches to religious pluralism, with forays into Hinduism and Tibetan Buddhism.
- *Patristic Theology* (Fall 2007, Fall 2010, Spring 2015, Spring 2017, Spring 2020). A survey of Greek Patristic literature from the apostolic period to the Council of Chalcedon.
- *Theology of Desire* (Spring 2008, Spring 2011). An exploration of the role of desire in spiritual practice in early Christianity, Vaiśnavite Hinduism, and Tibetan Buddhism.
- *Patristics Spirituality* (Spring 2009, Spring 2013, Spring 2016, Spring 2018). An exploration of Patristic spirituality, focusing on the development of the teaching of deification, with forays into iconoclasm and the roots of Palamite theology (taught as *Prayer and Spirituality in the Early Church* in Summer 2021, Fall 2023).
- *Theology after 1965* (Spring 2010, Spring 2017, Spring 2022). A survey of contemporary theology geared towards first-year PhD students.
- *History of Christian Spirituality* (Spring 2011, Spring 2015, Spring 2018). A survey of important themes and figures in the history of Christian spirituality mainly geared towards students in the first year of the GTU doctoral program in Spirituality
- *Tibetan-Christian Dialogue*, later *Tibetan Buddhism and Christianity* (Spring 2012, Fall 2014 online, Spring 2021). A comparative exploration of different themes in theology and spiritual practice from the perspective of early Christian spirituality and Tibetan Buddhism
- *Buddhist-Christian dialogue* (Spring 2016). An introduction to the interreligious dialogue and Buddhist-Christian dialogue, with an emphasis on the Mahāyāna tradition.
- *Method and Doctrines I* (Fall 2012, Fall 2014). A doctoral seminar on theological methodology throughout history, mainly geared towards students in the first year of the GTU doctoral program in Systematic and Philosophical Theology; taught again as *Theology and Ethics Doctoral Seminar* (Fall 2016, Fall 2023)

- *Trinitarian Theology* (Fall 2015, Fall 2018, Spring 2021). A historical overview of the development of Trinitarian theology over the centuries.
- *Christianity and the Dharma Religions* (Fall 2016, Fall 2019). An introduction to Hindu-Christian dialogue.
- *History and Culture Doctoral Seminar* (Spring 2019, Spring 2020). An introduction to themes and methods in the historical and cultural study of religion.
- *Theologies of Death across Traditions* (Spring 2022). An on-line course on death and dying in different traditions for the GTU Interreligious Chaplaincy program.
- *MTS/ThM integration seminar* (each semester since Fall 2019 until Spring 2022). A short introduction to contextual theology for MTS and ThM students.

Theological Immersions

- *Indonesia Theological Immersion* (January 2008), with the Jesuit University of Sanata Dharma, Yogyakarta (Indonesia). An immersion trip to Yogyakarta and Bali. The goal is to become acquainted with the local Muslim culture and gain a first-hand experience of Asian Christianity.
- *Nepal Theological Immersion* (January 2009, January 2012), with the Center for Buddhist Studies, Kathmandu University. An immersion trip to Kathmandu. The goal is to explore the world of Buddhism (specifically its Tibetan expression currently exiled in Nepal).
- *India Theological Immersion* (January 2010, January 2013, January 2017). Immersion trips to different parts of India. The goal is to explore the world of Hinduism as well as the world of Indian Christianity and the lived reality of interreligious dialogue in the Indian subcontinent.

Past Mentoring of Completed Dissertations and Theses (as of September 2023; list available on request)

- Directed 8 PhD and 1 ThD dissertations, served as reader for another 8
- Directed 8 STD theses, served as reader for another 2
- Directed 12 STL theses, served as reader for another 3
- Directed 1 STB thesis
- Directed 3 ThM theses
- Directed 14 MA theses, served as reader for another 18 (including GTU MAs, DSPT MAs and PAOI MAs)
- Directed 4 MTS projects, served as reader for another 1

Current Mentoring of Dissertations and Theses (as of September 2023; list available on request)

Directing 1 PhD and 3 STD dissertations; serving as reader for one PhD; directing 3 STL thesis and serving as reader for another one

JST/GTU activities

- Member of the Core Doctoral Faculty of the Graduate Theological Union (as of 2009; successfully reviewed in 2015 and 2020)
- Member of the Systematics and the Spirituality Areas at the GTU; from Fall 2016, member of the Theology and Ethics and the Cultural and Historical Study of Religion Departments
- Chair of the MDiv Comprehensive Examinations Writing Committee (2009, 2010, 2011, 2013)
- Chair of the Statutes and Curriculum Committee (2009-10, 2011-12); member of the Statutes and Curriculum Committee (2008-9 and again from Fall 2016-Spring 2019)
- Member of the steering committee for the "Local Ecclesiologies in Dialogue" Conference (2008-9)
- GTU Newhall Committee (2009-10)
- Member of the GTU committee for the three-annual evaluation of the Institute of Buddhist Studies (IBS), one of the institutes affiliated to the GTU (2010)
- JST representative at the GTU Library Committee, 2010-11, 2011-12
- Chair of the JST Systematic and Historical Theology Area (Spring 2012-Fall 2012)
- JST representative for the SCU Faculty Judicial Board (2012-15)

- JST point-person for the MA Program (Fall 2010-Spring 2015, again from Fall 2016 to Spring 2022; position discontinued)
- Member of the Vatican II anniversary celebration committee (Fall 2011-Spring 2013)
- Member of the JST Executive Committee (2012-13)
- JST point-person for the Malatesta exchange project with Chinese Universities (2012-13)
- Convenor for the Systematic and Philosophical Theology Area in the GTU doctoral program (2014-16)
- Member of the GTU Faculty Council (2016-8) overseeing the revision of the GTU doctoral program
- Chair of the PhD Admissions Committee for the Theology and Ethics Department, January 2017 and January 2018; member of PhD Admissions Committee for Historical and Cultural Studies of Religion (January 2024)
- Chair of the Theology and Ethics Department, GTU (2018-2020)
- Director of the MTS and ThM programs (from 2018/19 to 2021/22)
- Faculty representative on the JST Board of Trustees Academic Committee (2016-2019), JST Board of Trustees Finance Committee (2021, ongoing)
- Member of the Board of Trustees of the Patriarch Athenagoras Orthodox Institute, Graduate Theological Union, Berkeley (from Fall 2019, ongoing)
- Member of the GTU Doctoral Council (2020-22)
- Chair of the 2015 targeted search committee in Systematic Theology, member (2018/19) and chair (2019/20) of the Christian spirituality search committee

Other academic activities

- Co-editor of the journal *Buddhist-Christian Studies* (from the 2015 issue); edited the special 2018 issue devoted to Ippolito Desideri's journey to Tibet
- Board member of the Journal of Inter-Religious Studies (JIRS), formerly Journal of Inter-Religious Dialogue (JIRD)
- Member of the Board of the US Society of Buddhist-Christian Studies (since 2015) and of the Board of the European Network of Buddhist-Christian Studies (since 2022; attended ENBCS bi-annual board meeting at Sankt Ottilien, Germany, Jan. 6-8, 2023)
- Member of the Board of the Ancient Christian Writers Series (Paulist Press), as of August 2023
- Visiting Lecturer at Sun Yat Sen University (Guang Zhou, China), May-June 2008 (course on "Origen and Origenism"); Fudan University (Shangai, China), March 2010 (course on "Development of Early Christology"); Minzu University (Beijing, China), May/June 2011 (course on "Introduction to Buddhist-Christian Studies")
- Participant at the 2008 Institute for the Advanced Study of Asian Culture and Theology, Chinese University of Hong Kong (Chung Chi College), June 8th-July 17th, 2008

- Faculty at the Pappas Patristic Summer School at the Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology, Brookline, MA. July, 2009: "Portraits of the Invisible: Iconoclasm and Christology in Byzantium"; July 2015: "Theodore the Studite and post-Chalcedonian Christology"
- Co-chair of the Mysticism Study Group at the American Academy of Religion (2009-2015)
- Member of the Steering Committee of the Eastern Orthodox Study Group at the American Academy of Religion (2007-2013)
- Member of the Steering Committee of the Comparative Theology group for the Catholic Theological Society of America (2012-15), convenor (2014-15)
- Visiting Summer Fellow, Institute for Orthodox Christian Studies, Cambridge University, Summer 2009
- Occasional collaborator at the Italian magazine "Il Mondo di Annibale" (September 2011- January 2014) on "issues in the world church"; occasional columnist for the English-language version of the Indian Jesuit magazine *Ezhuth (Pax Lumina)* (Summer 2016, Winter 2018, Spring 2021, Fall 2021, Fall 2022)
- Visiting Lecturer, Catholic University of Ukraine, Lviv (March 24th-April 7th 2013). Course taught: "Patristic Spirituality"; additional lectures on Buddhist-Christian dialogue and theological methodology.
- Visiting Professor, Pacifica Graduate Institute, Santa Barbara. Course taught: seminar on Christian mystical traditions for the PhD program in Mythological Studies (six one-day workshops held between April 22nd and July 1st, 2013)
- Founding member (2014) and convenor (2015/16) of the interest group on Buddhist-Christian dialogue for the Catholic Theological Society of America
- As of April 2014, co-editor (with Dr. You Bin of Minzu University, Beijing, China) of a new book series for Palgrave Macmillan called *Interdisciplinary Approaches to the Study* of Mysticism
- Represented the Society for Buddhist-Christian Studies at the founding conference of the European Academy of Religion, Bologna (Italy), December 4th —5th, 2016
- Co-chair of a study group at the European Academy of Religion on Eastern Christianity and interreligious dialogue (2017- 2021)
- Member of an interreligious study group at the European Academy of Religion chaired by Prof. Aguilar (St. Andrew's University, Scotland) (2018-2020)
- Reader for Pacifica Graduate Institute doctoral theses (2019, 2020)
- Contributor to the blog of the Society for Buddhist-Christian Studies ('Buddhist-Christian dialogue in Bologna and Pistoia' March 2019; 'Ethnic and Convert Buddhists in the West,' July 2020, 'Tsong kha pa and the Christian East', September 2021, 'Byzantine Fractals: Haribhadra and Gregory Palamas', September 2022)

- Regular reviewer for *Theological Studies*, *Reviews in Religion and Theology* (German/French/Italian books), *Buddhist-Christian Studies*, *Journal of Inter-Religious Studies* (JIRS, formerly Journal of Inter-Religious Dialogue, JIRD)
- Occasional reviewer for the *Journal of the American Academy of Religion, Commonweal, Journal of Ecumenical Studies, Expositions, Journal of Early Christian Studies*
- Occasional manuscript reviewer for Catholic University of America, Lexington Press, Angelico Press, Fondazione Bruno Kessler (Trento)

(53 reviews published since 2006; list of reviews available on request)

Lectures/Panels

- "Atheist Religion? The Challenge of Buddhism to Contemporary Christianity" (as part of the *Theology in the City* lecture series). November 6th, 2007, Yamshon Alumni Center, California State University, Sacramento.
- "Cristina Campo e il Concilio Vaticano II". November 8th, 2007. Italian Cultural Association, University of California, Berkeley.
- "A World of Narratives? Theology of Religions and the Flight from Ontology", Introductory Address at the Engaging Particularities Conference on Comparative Theology, Boston College, March 28th, 2008
- "The empty cosmos: new frontiers of Christian-Buddhist dialogue", University of Great Falls, April 4th, 2008"
- "Towards an Asian Comparative Theology of the Image: Tibetan Deity Meditation and the Role of Icons in Late Patristic Spirituality", Seminar at Chinese University of Hong Kong, IASACT 2008, July 15th, 2008
- "Gregory of Nyssa's notion of spiritual progress and Buddhist understandings of *nirvana*", Lecture at Zhejiang University, Hangzhou, China, March 21st, 2010
- "Reflections on Pope Benedict's *Jesus of Nazareth*, Vol. 2", Panel at the Dominican School of Philosophy and Theology, Berkeley, April 20th 2011
- "Issues in Contemporary Christology", Saint Monica Peace Centre, Moraga, October 28th, 2011
- "Reflections on the Final Volume of Pope Benedict's *Jesus of Nazareth*", Panel at the Dominican School of Philosophy and Theology, Berkeley, December 12th, 2012
- "Religious Responses to Pluralism", International Symposium on Religion and Society, Loyola University at Trivandrum (Kerala, India), January 12th, 2013

- "Athanasios of Alexandria and the *Bhagavad Gita* on the question of divine transcendence and immanence", Sankaracharya Hindu University at Kalady (Kerala, India), January 18th, 2013
- Panelist for "Penance Across Traditions", Spirituality Day, Pacific Lutheran School of Theology, February 13th, 2013
- Panelist for "Contextual Salvation(s)?", Church Divinity School of the Pacific, March 5th, 2013
- Seminar on Evagrios Pontikos for the doctoral program in East-West Psychology, California Institute of Integral Studies, March 6th, 2013
- Lecture on "Vatican II and Interreligious Dialogue", Vatican II Lecture Series, November 13th, 2013, Jesuit School of Theology
- Theology in the City lectures on Pope Francis, March 2014, Los Angeles and Honolulu
- Lecture on the 2015 Synod on the Family to the Annual Meeting of Diocesan Communication Directors of California, November 4th, 2015, Los Altos; Meeting of Diocesan workers from the Western United States, February 2nd, 2016, Burlingame
- Respondent at different AAR panels ("Mystical Marriage as a Third Way between Mutuality and *Elisio Alteritatis*", AAR annual meeting 2010; "Christ in International Cinema", AAR annual meeting 2011; "The Ecstasy of the End: Death and Dying Across Traditions", AAR annual meeting, 2012; "Mystical Journeys Across Traditions", AAR annual meeting 2013; Quaker Mysticism, AAR annual meeting, November 2014)
- Panelist at William Jessup University (Rocklin, CA) for the event "The Early Experience of God's Mercy in Jesus Christ as Reflected in the Nicene Creed", September 6th, 2016
- "Anger and the Emotions in the Evagrian School of Spirituality and the Mahāyāna Buddhist Tradition," Workshop, Fondazione Bruno Kessler, Trento, July 11th, 2018
- Workshop on Depth Psychology and the Eastern Christian tradition, Pacifica Graduate Institute, Santa Barbara, November 11th, 2018
- Lecturer, "Introduction to Ecumenical and Interreligious Theology", Norcia Benedictine Monastery (Italy), Jan.-Feb. 2020 (remotely)
- Lecturer, "Sin and Redemption," Notre Dame Benedictine Priory of Tasmania (Australia), Aug.-Sept. 2021 (remotely)
- Lecturer, "Introduction to Buddhist-Christian dialogue," Pontifical University of Saint Thomas Aquinas (Angelicum), Rome, February-June 2023
- Lecturer/Workshop facilitator (with Dr. Gavin D'Costa), "Christian-Buddhist Interreligious Relations: A Catholic Theological Approach," Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas (Angelicum), Rome, March 4th, 2023
- Lecturer, "Cristo, Krishna, Buddha: teologie dell'incarnazione in dialogo, " (in Italian), Gregorian University Interreligious Forum, Rome, April 17th, 2023
- Lecturer, "Tito Casini, Cristina Campo and the Italian literary response to Vatican II," Norcia Benedictine Monastery (Italy), May 19th, 2023
- Gross Memorial Lecturer at Valparaiso University, Indiana, Oct. 23/24, 2023 (two lectures on Buddhist-Christian dialogue)

Papers given at conferences

- "The Cosmic Christ and the Dharmakāya: The Cosmic Christology of Maximos the Confessor and Haribhadra's Understanding of *Apratishtitā Nirvāna*", Boston College Graduate Conference on Comparative Theology, Boston (April, 2004)
- "Living in the End Times: Eschatology, Exclusivism, and Fragmentation in the Experience of Nineteenth and Twentieth Century Lithuanian Old Believers", Orthodox Study Group of the American Academy of Religion, Annual AAR Meeting, San Antonio (November, 2004)
- "Let No One Join what God has Put Asunder: Religious Pluralism and the Christology of Maximos the Confessor", Boston College Graduate Conference on Comparative Theology, Boston (April 2005)
- "Redeeming the Particular: The Dialectic of Unity and Multiplicity in the Christocentric Cosmology of Maximos the Confessor", Holy Cross Graduate Conference on Patristics, Holy Cross Orthodox School of Theology, Boston (April 2005)
- "Cosmic Order in the Flesh: Maximos the Confessor and the Christocentric Turn in Natural Theology", Annual Meeting of the North American Patristic Society, Chicago (June 2005)
- "Devekut' and Bodily Service: The Role of the Tsaddik and the Redemption of the "Evil Urges" of the Flock in Eastern European Hasidic Communities", Mysticism Study Group of the American Academy of Religion, Annual AAR Meeting, Philadelphia (November 2005)
- "In defense of moral autonomy: Maximos and Origen on embodiment and spiritual practice", Meeting of the Boston Patristics Group, Boston (March, 2006)
- "And his kingdom will have an end: body and desire in the *Kephalaia Gnostica* of Evagrios Pontikos", Annual Meeting of the North American Patristic Society, Chicago (May 2006)
- "The Cosmic Christ and the Dharmakāya: Embodied Manifestations of the Cosmic Order in Maximos the Confessor and Tsong Kha Pa", Comparative Theology Group of the American Academy of Religion, Annual AAR Meeting, Washington DC (November 2006)
- "Salvation through Matter: Maximos the Confessor and Pavel Florensky on the Propedeutic Purpose of Creation", Orthodox Study Group of the American Academy of Religion, Annual AAR Meeting, Washington DC (November 2006)
- "The symphonic church: Chalcedonian themes in Maximos the Confessor's liturgical theology", Oxford Conference of Patristic Studies (August 2007)
- "Towards an Asian comparative theology of the image: Tibetan visualization practices and the role of icons in the pursuit of *theōsis*", Mysticism Study Group of the American Academy of Religion, Annual AAR Meeting, San Diego (November 2007)

- "Primacy Revisited: Recovering Different Dimensions of Trinitarian Theology in Light of the 2007 Ravenna Declaration", Pappas Patristics Conference, October 2008
- "Verbal imagining: scientific reflection on visual cognition in light of traditional Tibetan and Christian theologies of the image", Society for Buddhist Christian Studies, November 2008
- "Christology and Iconoclasm in the Writings of Theodore the Studite", Annual Meeting of the North American Patristic Society, Chicago (June 2009)
- "Salvific Asymmetry: Anhypostasy and Spiritual Practice in Theodore the Studite's *Refutation of the Iconoclasts*", First International Patristic Conference, Greek Catholic University of Lviv, September 2009
- "The Empty Throne: Religious Imagery and Eschatology in Byzantium and Tibet", pre-AAR Meeting of the Theological Aesthetics Group, Montreal (November 2009)
- Relationship or person? Reassessing Leontius of Byzantium's notion of *hypostasis*, Annual Meeting of the North American Patristic Society, Chicago (June 2010)
- "Bodhisattvas, Walis, and Sadhus: Saints in other traditions as a resource for Christian comparative theology" (Panelist), Meeting of the Catholic Theological Society of America, San Jose, June 2011
- "An Evagrian ὑπόστασις? Leontios of Byzantium and the "composite subjectivity" of the person of Christ", 15th International Patristic Conference, Oxford University
- "A Garment of Metaphors?: Incarnation as "Borrowed Speech" in the Poetry of Ephrem the Syrian and Maximos the Confessor", Eastern Orthodox Studies Group, Annual AAR Meeting, San Francisco (November 2011)
- "The Challenge of the Desert: Passions and Emotions in Early Christian Spirituality", Annual Symposium on Integral Consciousness, California Institute of Integral Studies, San Francisco, May 4th, 2012
- "The human and the cosmic: Christological interpretations of the liturgy in Thomas Aquinas and Maximos the Confessor", Meeting of the Catholic Theological Society of America, St Louis, June 2012
- "A composite mystery: divine subjectivity and human agency in the soteriology of John Damascene's *De Fide Orthodoxa*", North American Patristic Society meeting, Chicago, May 2013
- "Conformed to Christ: Evagrian and Chalcedonian themes in Theodore the Studite's *Parva Catechesis*", North American Patristic Society Annual Meeting, Chicago, May 2014
- "Reading Ignatius in Kathmandu: Towards a New Pedagogy of Interreligious Dialogue", Catholic Theological Society Annual Meeting, San Diego, June 2014
- "Ground and Manifestation: a Christian Reading of the *Kun-byed Rgyal-po* in Conversation with Origen's *De Principiis*", Minzu University Conference on Interreligious Dialogue, October 2014
- "Maximos the Confessor and Ephrem the Syrian on analogy and metaphor", August 2015, Oxford 2015 Patristic Conference
- "The Desert Fathers and Han Buddhism monastic practice on vegetarianism and diet", panelist at the 2015 Parliament of World Religions, Salt Lake City, 2015

- "Cyril of Alexandria's notion of ancestral sin and Mahāyāna notions of *karma*", Society for Buddhist-Christian Studies meeting at the AAR, November 2015, Atlanta
- "Progression or adoption? The relationship between eikon and homoiosis in Clement and Cyril of Alexandria", North American Patristic Society Annual Meeting, Chicago, May 2016
- "Laudato Si' and a Broader Vision of Reality: Theologies of Purified Vision in Theodore the Studite and Bokar Rinpoche", Comparative Theology Group and Roman Catholic Studies Group, Annual AAR Meeting, San Antonio (2016)
- "Rescuing Alexandria: Depth Psychology and the Return of Allegorical Exegesis", Mysticism Group, Annual AAR Meeting, San Antonio, 2016
- "Why Doctrines? Nicene Christologies today", lecture at Mangalam Syro-Malabar Seminary, Kochin (Kerala, India), Jan. 18th, 2017
- Panelist for an event on "Interreligious dialogue today", Loyola Institute of Peace and International Relations (LIPI), Kochin (Kerala, India), Jan. 19th, 2017
- "The deified cosmos: Maximos the Confessor and Sylouan the Athonite on the deification of the natural order and the love of self", presentation at the GTU conference on sustainability, April 8th, 2017
- "Noetic Illumination or Chalcedonian Transformation? Revisiting Maximos the Confessor's Eucharistic Theology", North American Patristic Society, Chicago, May 2017
- "Holy Anger, Holy Wrath: The Role of Anger and the Emotions in early Christian spirituality and the Mahāyāna Buddhist tradition", Bologna, 0th conference (sic) of the European Academy of Religion, June 2017 (revised version delivered at Society for Buddhist Christian Studies meeting, Boston, November 2017)
- "Apatheia and āśrayaparavrtti: meditation and epistemic purification in the Philokalia and Yogācāra Buddhism", Montserrat (Spain), meeting of the European Network of Buddhist-Christian Studies, July 2017
- "Ippolito Desideri and the Universality of Aristotelian Rationality: a Model or a Hindrance?", *Convegno Internazionale di Studi su Ippolito Desideri*, Pistoia (Italy) October 13-14, 2017
- "Maximos the Confessor and Thomas Aquinas on Liturgical Theology", *Thomas Aquinas and the Greek Fathers* conference, Ave Maria University, January 26-27, 2018
- "Degree of ultimacy: Gregory Palamas' essence-energies distinction and the dGe lugs teaching of the four bodies of the Buddha", Bologna, European Academy of Religion, March 2018
- "Kant or Tantra? How a Dharmic approach to mystical phenomena may circumvent the strictures of Kantian epistemology", Bologna, European Academy of Religion, March 2018
- "Christological and Hagiographical Themes in the Iambic Composition of Theodore the Studite, North American Patristic Society", Chicago, May 2018
- *Depth Psychology and Mysticism* Book Panel presentation, Pacifica Graduate Institute, Santa Barbara, Nov. 10th, 2018

- Panelist on "Maximos the Confessor: Ancient Wisdom for Contemporary Times," Annual AAR meeting, November 2019
- "Chögyam Trungpa and the Fools for Christ: Reinventing Crazy Wisdom in the Tibetan Diaspora and Post-Soviet Russia", Annual AAR meeting, November 2019
- "Context or tradition? The importance of 'ressourcement' in the era of contextual theology"; "Deity Mantras and the Jesus Prayer: the *imiaslavie* teaching and Nyingma Visualization Practices"; "Post-Christian Theologies and Secular Buddhism: Towards Interreligious Dialogue in Postmodernity" at 2nd European Academy of Religion, Bologna, March 4-7 2019, Italy
- "The icon and the *thang ka*: archetypes, inner transformation, and awakening", at *Art and Psyche: The Illuminated Imagination*, Pacifica Graduate Institute and UC Santa Barbara, April 3-6, 2019
- Lecturer at *Illuminating One Another in Dialogue: Interreligious Perspectives through the Prism of the Lotus Sutra*, International Lotus Sutra Seminar, June 2019, Rissho Kosei-kai Center, Tokyo, Japan
- Panelist on "Buddhist and Christian Approaches to the Afterlife", Sankt Ottilien (Germany), meeting of the European Network of Buddhist-Christian Studies, (June 2019)
- "Divine and humane agency in the Christology of John Damascene", Oxford Patristic Conference, August 2019
- Chair/respondent for the panel *Shantideva for Christians?*, American Academy of Religion, San Diego, 2019

Papers presentations cancelled because of the COVID-19 pandemic: Princeton Conference on World Christianity (Princeton, March 2020); North American Patristic Society (Chicago, May 2020); Reading Sacred Texts Interreligiously conference (Rome, June 2020); European Academy of Religion (Bologna, June 2020); New Delhi conference of English-speaking Jesuit theologates (July 2020).

- "Sounds of the end: music and eschatology in Messiaen's *Quartet for the End of Time* and the Tibetan practice of *chod*," American Academy of Religion, Boston, 2020 (remotely)
- "*Pranayana* on Athos? Heightened states in hesychastic practice and the theological policing of spiritual emergency in the *Philokalia*", in "Psychedelics, Madness, & Awakening: Harm Reduction and Future Visions" (online conference, beginning Jan. 31, 2021)
- "Back to Composition: Maximos the Confessor on Christ's Composite Subjectivity and God's Providential Will" (NAPS, May 24th 2021, remotely)
- "Transcending ethics, awakening the mind: Maximos the Confessor and Tsong kha pa and the challenge of textual supersessionism" (Reading Sacred Texts Interreligiously conference, May 25th 2021, remotely)

- "The spirituality of victim souls in counterreformation Catholicism and the Tibetan practice of *chod*"; "Hearing Flesh, Seeing the Word: Theodore the Studite and Jamgon Kondrul on the Transformative Dimension of Spiritual Perception"; Panelist for book panel on Francis Tiso's monograph *Rainbow Body and Resurrection*; European Academy of Religion, August 31st-Sept. 2nd in Muenster, Germany (remotely)
- Panelist for panel on "Comparative approaches to non-dualism", American Academy of Religion, San Antonio, Nov. 2021
- "Towards a New Liturgical Personalism: the *Mystagogy* and Neo-Scholastic Reductionism" invited speaker at the Pappas Patristic Institute symposium on Maximos the Confessor's *Mystagogy*, Boston, April 28-30, 2022
- "Contemporary Catholic contextual theology and Georges Florovsky's retrieval of the Patristic vision: the beginnings of a conversation", contribution to a panel on George Florovsky and Catholic thought; participant in book panel on Perry Schmidt-Leukel's *Das Himmlische Geflecht*, Bologna, European Academy of Religion, June 20th-24th, 2022
- "The 'dry path of detachment': Julius Evola's Doctrine of Awakening and the interpretation of Buddhism in Fascist Italy", European Network of Buddhist-Christian Studies, Salzburg, June 30th-July 2nd 2022
- "Composition and asymmetry: Christ's dynamic subjectivity and its implications for Catholicity and ecclesial diversity", Theology and Catholicity Seminar, Australian Catholic University- Rome Campus (September 16th-18th 2022)
- "The eloquence of divine Love: Radical Orthodoxy's critique of postmodernity and David Bentley Hart's notion of analogy as agapic practice", IOTA conference, Volos, Greece (January 12-16th, 2023)
- Invited speaker at PRISM (Planning a Program Strategy for the Study of Mysticism), University of Tampere, Finland, (October 12/13, 2023)

Forthcoming presentations

- "Action, praxis and compassion: Traces of engaged mysticism in the *Philokalia* and Tibetan Buddhism", Mysticism and Praxis Conference, St. John's College, Oxford, (March 19-21, 2024)
- Organizer of panel "Reconfiguring the inner life: Christian asceticism and the construction of an ordered subjectivity", presenter of "Pneumatic diakrisis: Diadochos of Photiki on discrimination, the Holy Spirit, and the purification of the intellect", North American Patristic Society, Chicago (May 23-15, 2024)
- "Reconfiguring the self: the Old Testament as a Christian map for the redemption of interiority", at "Old Testament as Christian Scripture" Conference, Angelicum, June 17-20 2024
- Panelist on "Embodiment and Transcendence" at the International Conference of the European Network of Buddhist-Christian Studies, Sankt Ottilien (Germany) (June 26-30, 2024)
- "A Chalcedonian Origenism? Iconoclast Christology and the communicatio idiomatum at the Council of Hieria", Oxford Patristic Conference, August 2024

Professional Development Events

- Seminar for Newly Appointed Faculty, Association of Theological Schools, Chicago, Oct. 19-21, 2007
- 2008 Lilly Conference on Theological Research, Association of Theological Schools, Pittsburgh, Feb. 22-24, 2008
- 2010 Lilly Conference on Theological Research, Association of Theological Schools, Pittsburgh, Feb. 19-21, 2010
- Wabash On-line Course for Theology Faculty learning to Teach On-line, May-July 2011
- Western Conversations on "Vatican II Fifty Years Later", Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles, October 12-14, 2012
- CADE program on distance education (on-line delivery), September-December 2013

Membership of Professional Societies

American Academy of Religion

- North American Patristics Society
- Society for Buddhist-Christian Studies
- European Network of Buddhist-Christian Studies
- European Academy of Religion
- Academy of Catholic Theology
- IOTA (International Orthodox Theological Association) (Associate Member)

Personal Information

- Married, two sons
- Dual Italian and US citizenship (as of Dec. 10, 2015)