

# TIMOTHY BEAL

Florence Harkness Professor of Religion  
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## EDUCATION

**Ph.D.**, Emory University, Graduate Division of Religion, 1995 (Old Testament/  
Hebrew Bible). Dissertation: "Gender, Ethnicity, and Annihilation in Esther." Carol A.  
Newsom, director.

**Certificate in Women's Studies**, Emory University, 1995. Rebecca Chopp, director.

**M.Div.**, Columbia Theological Seminary, 1991.

**B.A.**, Seattle Pacific University, 1986 (English and secondary education).

## PROFESSIONAL HISTORY

### FACULTY POSITIONS

**Florence Harkness Professor of Religion**, Case Western Reserve University,  
2002 to present.

**Chair, Department of Religious Studies**, Case Western Reserve University,  
2015 to present.

**Harkness Associate Professor of Biblical Literature**, Case Western  
Reserve University, 1999-2002.

**Director, Baker-Nord Center for the Humanities**, Case Western Reserve  
University, 2003-2007.

**Associate Director, Baker-Nord Center for the Humanities**, 2002-2003.

**Assistant Professor of Religious Studies**, Eckerd College, 1994-1999;  
secondary appointments in Women's and Gender Studies and Environmental  
Studies.

**Honourary Lecturer**, University of Glasgow, Centre for the Study of

Literature, Theology and the Arts, summer 1997.

**Adjunct Professor in Hebrew Exegesis**, Columbia Theological Seminary, 1993-1994.

**Teaching Assistant**, Candler School of Theology, Emory University, spring 1993.

## PUBLICATIONS

### BOOKS, AUTHORED

Timothy Beal, *The Rise and Fall of the Bible: The Unexpected History of An Accidental Book* (New York: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2011). Mariner paperback, 2012.

Timothy Beal, *Biblical Literacy: The Essential Bible Stories Everyone Needs to Know* (San Francisco: HarperOne, 2009). Paperback edition, 2010. Audible.com audiobook edition, read by J.P. O'Shaughnessy, 2012.

Timothy Beal, *Religion in America: A Very Short Introduction* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2008).

Timothy K. Beal, *Roadside Religion: In Search of the Sacred, the Strange, and the Substance of Faith* (Boston: Beacon Press, 2005). *Publishers Weekly* Best Religion Books of 2005; *New York Times Book Review* Editor's Choice; Amazon.com Top 10 Editors' Picks for Christianity, 2005; paperback, 2006.

William E. Deal and Timothy K. Beal, *Theory for Religious Studies* (New York: Routledge, 2004).

Timothy K. Beal, *Religion and Its Monsters* (New York: Routledge, 2002). *Reviews in Religion and Theology* Editor's Choice; Korean translation by Dulnyouk Publishing Company.

Timothy K. Beal, *Esther*. Berit Olam: Studies in Hebrew Narrative and Poetry (Collegeville: Liturgical Press, 1999).

Timothy K. Beal, *The Book of Hiding: Gender, Ethnicity, Annihilation, and Esther* (London: Routledge, 1997).

### BOOKS AND REFERENCE WORKS, EDITED

Timothy Beal, Editor-in-Chief, *The Oxford Encyclopedia of the Bible and the Arts* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2015). Online: [oxfordbiblicalstudies.com](http://oxfordbiblicalstudies.com). *Library Journal* Award for Best Print Reference in the Humanities for 2015.

Claudia Camp, Tod Linafelt, and Timothy Beal, eds., *The Fate of King David: The Past and Present of a Biblical Icon* (New York: Continuum, 2010). Paperback 2012.

Timothy K. Beal and Tod Linafelt, eds., *Mel Gibson's Bible: Religion, Popular Culture, and The Passion of the Christ* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2006).

Timothy K. Beal and Tod Linafelt, eds., *God in the Fray: A Tribute to Walter Brueggemann* (Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 1998).

David M. Gunn and Timothy K. Beal, *Reading Bibles, Writing Bodies: Identity and The Book* (London: Routledge, 1996).

## **BOOKS, FORTHCOMING**

Timothy Beal, *The Book of Revelation: A Biography* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, forthcoming late 2017 or early 2018).

Timothy Beal, *The Dominion Delusion* (tentative title; Boston: Beacon, forthcoming 2018).

## **SCHOLARLY ARTICLES**

Timothy Beal, "No God Outside the Text: Walter Brueggemann's Biblical Rhetorical Theology," *The Meaning(s) of Walter Brueggemann: A Dialogue*, ed. Brent Strawn and Davis Hankins (Winona Lake, IN: Eisenbrauns: forthcoming 2017).

"Apocalypticism and Protestant Evangelical Horror from *Thief in the Night* to *Left Behind*," *Protestantism on Screen*, eds. Erik Redling, Gastón Espinosa, and Jason Stevens (book proposal under review).

Timothy Beal, "'Who Filled His Heart to Do Such a Thing?' Metaphorical Conceptions of Selfhood in the Book of Esther," *Journal for the Study of the Old Testament* 40 (2015): 97-111. Special issue in honor of Carol A. Newsom.

Timothy Beal, "Beowulf," *The Oxford Encyclopedia of the Bible and the Arts*, ed. Timothy Beal (New York: Oxford University Press, 2015).

- Tod Linafelt and Timothy Beal, "This Particular Manifestation of Holiness: Rhetorical Theological Imagination in 1 Samuel 16," *Imagination, Ideology and Inspiration: Echoes of Brueggemann in a New Generation*, ed. Jonathan Kaplan and Robert Williamson, Jr. (Sheffield: Sheffield Phoenix Press, 2015).
- Timothy Beal, "Monsters," *The Oxford Encyclopedia of the Bible and Theology*, ed. Samuel Ballentine (New York: Oxford University Press, 2014).
- Timothy Beal, "Cultural History of Bible," *The Oxford Encyclopedia of Biblical Interpretation*, ed. Steven McKenzie (New York: Oxford University Press, 2013).
- Timothy Beal, "Cultural-Historical Criticism," *New Meanings for Ancient Texts*. Ed. John Kaltner and Steven McKenzie (Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 2013).
- Eric Pellish and Timothy Beal, "Paradise Gardens," World Religions and Spirituality Project, Virginia Commonwealth University  
<[www.has.vcu.edu/wrs/profiles/ParadiseGardens.htm](http://www.has.vcu.edu/wrs/profiles/ParadiseGardens.htm)>, December 2012.
- Timothy Beal, "Children's Bibles Hot and Cold," *In the Picture: Otherness in Children's Bibles*, ed. Caroline Vander Stichele and Hugh Pypers. Semeia Studies (Atlanta: Society of Biblical Literature, 2012).
- Timothy Beal, "Beyond Reception History: Toward the Cultural History of Scriptures," *Biblical Interpretation* 19 (2011): 357-72.
- Timothy Beal and William E. Deal, "Theory, Disciplinarity, and the Study of Religion: Lessons from a Publishing Nightmare." *The Journal of the American Academy of Religion* 79.4 (2011): 1050-1064.
- Timothy Beal, "The End of the Word as We Know It: The Cultural Iconicity of the Bible in the Twilight of Print Culture." *Postscripts* 6.1/2/3 (2010): 165-84.
- Timothy Beal, "Mimetic Monsters: The Genesis of Horror in the Face of the Deep," *Postscripts* 4.1 (2008): 83-91.
- Timothy K. Beal and William E. Deal, "William E. Deal and Timothy K. Beal Answer Richard Schechner's Questions," *TDR: The Drama Review* 53 (2009): 14-16.
- Timothy K. Beal, "Judges," in *The Oxford Handbook of English Literature and Theology*, ed. Andrew Hass and David Jasper (Oxford: Oxford

University Press, 2007).

Timothy K. Beal, "They Know Not What They Watch," in *Mel Gibson's Bible: Religion, Popular Culture, and The Passion of the Christ*, ed. Timothy K. Beal and Tod Linafelt (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2005).

Timothy K. Beal, "Esther," in *Renovare Study Bible*, ed. Richard Foster, Walter Brueggemann, and Eugene Peterson (San Francisco: Harper San Francisco, 2005).

Timothy K. Beal, "Additions to Esther," in *Renovare Study Bible*, ed. Richard Foster, Walter Brueggemann, and Eugene Peterson (San Francisco: Harper San Francisco, 2005).

Timothy K. Beal, "The Phineas Priesthood and the White Supremacist Bible," in *Sanctified Aggression: Violent Legacies of Biblical, Jewish and Christian Vocabularies*, ed. Jonneke Bekkenkamp and Yvonne Sherwood (Sheffield: Continuum, 2004).

Timothy K. Beal and Tod Linafelt, "To Love Tallith More than God," in *Derrida and Religion: Other Testaments*, ed. Kevin Hart and Yvonne Sherwood (London: Routledge, 2004).

Timothy K. Beal, "Fearing the Other – Within and Beyond," *The Hedgehog Review* 5 (2003): 108-114.

Timothy K. Beal, "Facing Job," in *Levinas and Biblical Studies*, ed. Tamara Eskenazi and Gary A. Phillips (Atlanta: Society of Biblical Literature, 2004).

Timothy K. Beal and Tod Linafelt, "Beowulf's Bible: The Monsters and the Biblical Critics," in *Relating to the Text: Form Critical and Interdisciplinary Insights on the Bible*, ed. T. Sandoval and C. Mandolfo (Sheffield: Continuum, 2003).

Timothy K. Beal, "Specters of Moses: Overtures to Biblical Hauntology," in *Constructs of Ancient Israel: The Bible and Its Social Worlds*, ed. David M. Gunn and Paula McNutt (New York: Continuum, 2002).

Timothy K. Beal and Deborah Krause, "Higher Critics on Late Texts: Reading Biblical Scholarship after the Holocaust," in *A Shadow of Glory: Reading the New Testament after the Holocaust*, ed. Tod Linafelt (New York: Routledge, 2002).

Timothy K. Beal, "Teaching the Conflicts, For the Bible Tells Me So," in *Professing in the Postmodern Academy: Faculty and the Future of*

*Church-Related Colleges*, ed. Stephen R. Haynes (Waco: Baylor University Press, 2002).

Elie Wiesel and Timothy K. Beal, "Matters of Survival: A Conversation," in *Strange Fire: Reading the Hebrew Bible after the Holocaust*, ed. Tod Linafelt (New York: New York University Press, 2000; reprinted in *Religious Studies News*, September 2000).

Timothy K. Beal, "Intertextuality," in *Handbook for Postmodern Biblical Interpretation*, ed. Andrew K.M. Adam (St. Louis: Chalice, 2000).

Timothy K. Beal and Tod Linafelt, "Bataille, Georges," in *Handbook for Postmodern Biblical Interpretation*, ed. Andrew K.M. Adam (St. Louis: Chalice, 2000).

Timothy K. Beal, "Behold Thou the Behemoth: Imagining the Unimaginable in Monster Movies," in *Imag(in)ing Otherness: Filmic Visions of Living Together*, ed. David Jasper and S. Brent Plate (Oxford: American Academy of Religion and Oxford University Press, 1999).

David M. Gunn and Timothy K. Beal, "Judges, The Book of," in *The Dictionary of Biblical Interpretation*, ed. John H. Hayes (Nashville: Abingdon, 1999).

Timothy K. Beal, "C(ha)osmopolis: Qohelet's Last Words." In *God in the Fray: A Tribute to Walter Brueggemann*, ed. Tod Linafelt and Timothy K. Beal (Minneapolis: Fortress, 1998).

Timothy K. Beal, Kyle A. Keefer, and Tod Linafelt, "Literary Theory, Literary Criticism, and the Bible," in *The Dictionary of Biblical Interpretation*, ed. John Hayes (Nashville: Abingdon, 1998).

Timothy K. Beal, "Tracing Esther's Beginnings," in *The Feminist Companion to Esther, Judith, and Susanna*, ed. Athalya Brenner (Sheffield: Sheffield Academic, 1995).

Timothy K. Beal and Tod Linafelt, "Sifting for Cinders: Strange Fires in Leviticus 10:1-5," *Semeia* 69/70 (1995): 19-32.

Timothy K. Beal, "The System and the Speaking Subject in the Hebrew Bible: Reading for Divine Abjection," *Biblical Interpretation* 2 (1994): 171-89.

Timothy K. Beal, "Ideology and Intertextuality: Surplus of Meaning and Controlling the Means of Production," in *Reading Between Texts: Intertextuality and the Hebrew Bible*, ed. Danna Nolan Fewell (Louisville: Westminster/John Knox, 1992).

Timothy K. Beal, "Glossary," in *Reading Between Texts: Intertextuality and the Hebrew Bible*, ed. Danna Nolan Fewell (Louisville: Westminster/John Knox, 1992).

Timothy K. Beal, "Bringing out the New and the Old: An Interactive Approach to the Parables, Instanced in Matthew 13:51-52," *Church Divinity* (1989-90) 106-22.

## **ARTICLES AND FEATURES IN PUBLIC MEDIA**

Timothy Beal, "Why There Is No Healing Without Grief," *The Conversation*, November 15, 2016.

Timothy Beal, "Fundamentally Atheist," *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, Chronicle Review, May 11, 2015. B 14-16.

Timothy Beal, "Born Again Way Back When: Rethinking the Age of Evangelicalism," *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, Chronicle Review, June 30, 2014. B13-15.

Timothy Beal, "Pussy Riot's Theology," *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, Chronicle Review, September 17, 2012.

Timothy Beal, "BibliFact Roundups," a series of fact-checking articles on political Bible talk by presidential candidates and their pundits, *The Huffington Post* <[huffingtonpost.com/timothy-beal](http://huffingtonpost.com/timothy-beal)>, March to November, 2012.

Timothy Beal, "Open Letter to Rev. Billy Graham," *The Huffington Post* <[huffingtonpost.com/timothy-beal](http://huffingtonpost.com/timothy-beal)>, October 22, 2012.

Timothy Beal, "There's No Such Thing as Osama Bin Laden," *The Huffington Post* <[huffingtonpost.com/timothy-beal](http://huffingtonpost.com/timothy-beal)>, May 25, 2011.

Timothy Beal, "The Bible Is Dead: Long Live the Bible," *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, Chronicle Review (cover article), April 17, 2011.

Timothy Beal, "Will the King James Bible Survive?" *The Huffington Post* <[huffingtonpost.com/timothy-beal](http://huffingtonpost.com/timothy-beal)>, March 21, 2011.

Timothy Beal, "My Take: There's No Such Thing as the Bible and Never Has Been," CNN.com <<http://religion.blogs.cnn.com/2011/02/22/my-take-there-s-no-such-thing-as-the-bible/>>, February 22, 2011.

Timothy Beal, "In the Beginning(s): Appreciating the Complexity of the Bible,"

*The Huffington Post* <[huffingtonpost.com/timothy-beal](http://huffingtonpost.com/timothy-beal)>, February 15, 2011.

Timothy Beal, "Seeds and Sewers: A Congregation Confronts a Parable," *The Christian Century*, February 8, 2011.

Timothy Beal, "Among the Evangelicals: Inside a Fractured Movement," *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, Chronicle Review (cover article), December 12, 2010.

Timothy Beal, "Theology for Everyone," *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, Chronicle Review, January 15, 2010, B16-17.

Timothy Beal, "The Bible: 5 Things You Didn't Know," Askmen.com, November, 2009.

Timothy Beal, "Entering the Kingdom of Kitsch," *SoMA Review*, <[www.somareview.com/enteringkingdomofkitsch.cfm](http://www.somareview.com/enteringkingdomofkitsch.cfm)>.

Timothy Beal, "Adding God to Your Shopping Cart: How Religious Consumerism Is Replacing Religious Literacy," *SoMA Review*, <[www.somareview.com/addinggodtoyour.cfm](http://www.somareview.com/addinggodtoyour.cfm)>.

Timothy K. Beal, "Romancing the 'Code,'" *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, Chronicle Review, June 9, 2006, B14.

Timothy K. Beal, "A Right at Righteous, a Left at Licentious," *The New York Times*, July 17, 2005, Sunday Travel back page.

Timothy K. Beal, "Seeking Out Lives of Faith, in All Their Awesome Absurdity," *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, Chronicle Review, April 15, 2005, cover article.

Timothy K. Beal, "The Passion of the Christ: They Know Not What They Watch," *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, Chronicle Review, March 19, 2004, B14-15.

Timothy K. Beal, "Redemption in an Unlikely Place," *The Washington Post*, Sunday Outlook, Oct. 20, 2003, B3.

Timothy K. Beal, "Bibles du Jour," *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, Chronicle Review, July 26, 2002, B5.

Timothy K. Beal, "Getting in Touch with the Monsters that Lurk Inside," *The Cleveland Plain Dealer*, Beliefs feature, October 20, 2001, E3.



Timothy K. Beal, "Our Monsters, Ourselves," *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, Chronicle Review, November 9, 2001, B18-19.

Portions of books have been excerpted in online versions of *The New York Times*, *BeliefNet*, *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, *The Christian Century*, *SoMA Review*, the *Society of Biblical Literature Forum*, and *NPR.org*.

Interviews related to *The Rise and Fall of the Bible*, *Biblical Literacy*, and *Roadside Religion* have appeared on many radio and television shows, including: *All Things Considered* (NPR), *The Bob Edwards Show* (NPR/XMRadio), *On Point* (two appearances; NPR/WBUR Boston), *Interfaith Voices* (two appearances; NPR syndication), *The Osgood File* (syndicated AM radio), *Oregon Public Radio* (OPB Portland), WCPN Cleveland, Focus 580, Focus 580 (WILL Chicago), God Talk (CJOB Winnipeg), Voice of America, Air America, Ideastream's public TV show, *Ideas*, and Fox TV's *Good Day Atlanta*.

Feature articles and interviews on *The Rise and Fall of the Bible*, *Biblical Literacy* and *Roadside Religion* have appeared in *The Washington Post*, *The Baltimore Sun*, *The Dallas Morning News*, *The Orlando Sentinel*, *The Miami Herald*, *The Cleveland Plain Dealer*, *The Chicago Tribune*, *The St. Petersburg Times*, *The International Herald Tribune*, *The Denver Post*, *The New York Post*, *The Huffington Post*, *The San Francisco Chronicle*, *USA Today*, *CNN.com*, *The Christian Century*, and *The Christian Science Monitor*, among many other newspapers and online news sources.

Featured in video programs of Bible Odyssey, an initiative of the Society of Biblical Literature funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities, 2012.

Featured in forthcoming documentary, *The Origins of the Bible*, produced by Living the Questions, 2012.

Featured in 90-minute Animal Planet documentary, *Beasts of the Bible*, directed by Graeme Ball, premiered April 1, 2010; published as DVD August 2010.

Featured in 12-minute film, *Roadside Religion*, directed and produced by David C. Barnett for WVIZ Ideastream's television show *Ideas*, premiered August 17, 2006.

Audio interview on religion and horror for [www.constructinghorror.com](http://www.constructinghorror.com), a website for horror screenwriters created by Steve Ericsson, Golem Films.

## **PUBLIC LECTURES AND ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS**

"It's the End of the Word As We Know It! Or, What I Learned While Hanging

Out at Iliff," keynote address, Renewal conference, Iliff School of Theology, February 5, 2017.

"Bible As Media: Toward a Cultural History of the Biblical," keynote address, Made in Norway: Constructing Bible and Jesus in Contemporary Culture, University of Agder, Kristiansand, Norway, December 8, 2017.

"Response to *Prophecy without Contempt: Religious Discourse in the Public Square*, by Kathleen Kaveny," American Academy of Religion annual meeting, San Antonio, Texas, November 21, 2017.

"Response to *Profane Parables*, by Matthew Rindge," Society of Biblical Literature annual meeting, San Antonio, Texas, November 20, 2017.

"It's the End of the Word – As we Know It: Reimagining Scripture for a New Day," public lecture, King University, October 3, 2016.

"The Voice of One Growling in the Wilderness: Toward a Gospel of the Wild," Emmanuel Episcopal Church, Bristol, Tennessee, October 3, 2016.

Panelist, "Textual Technologies: Reading and Writing the Bible with Natural Language Processing," American Academy of Religion, Rocky Mountains / Great Plains Region, Denver, CO, April 2, 2016.

"Thief in the Night of the Living Dead: Revelation, Apocalypticism, and the Emergence of Evangelical Horror Culture," keynote address, Southeast Conference for the Study of Religion, Atlanta, GA, March 5, 2016.

"Scaring the Hell Out of Us: The Rise and Fall of Evangelical Apocalyptic Horror Movies," Marsico Visiting Scholar Lecture, Denver University, February 29, 2016.

Panelist, "Bible in Ancient and Modern Media; Nida Institute for Biblical Scholarship at the American Bible Society," Society of Biblical Literature annual meeting, Atlanta, GA, November 23, 2015.

"Apocalypticism and Protestant Evangelical Horror from *Thief in the Night to Left Behind*," Protestantism on Screen: Religion, Politics, and Aesthetics in European and American Movies, Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg, Germany, June 24-27, 2015.

"Faith in Chaos: Interdisciplinary Emergencies and Emergences in Religious Studies," University of Denver and Iliff School of Theology, May 11, 2015.

Panelist, "The Multidisciplinary Nature of Religious Studies," University of

Denver and Iliff School of Theology, May 13, 2015.

“Face of the Deep,” Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting, Special Session on “Altering Translation,” San Diego, CA, November 24, 2014.

“Review of *Performing the Reformation*, by Barry Stephenson,” American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, Videographic Methods in Studying Ritual, San Diego, CA, November 23, 2014.

Panelist for series of events highlighting the exhibition *Inferno* at the Maltz Museum of Jewish History, Cleveland: “Identity” (July 30, 2014), “Spectacle” (August 13, 2014), and “Memory” (September 10, 2014).

“Word Processing: Translation in/as Media,” Nida School of Translation Studies, San Pellegrino University, May 30, 2014.

“Making Space: Translation as Hospitality,” Nida School of Translation Studies, San Pellegrino University, May 28, 2014.

“Face to Face: Translation as Ethical Encounter,” Nida School of Translation Studies, San Pellegrino University, May 26, 2014.

“The Word According to Rihanna: Biblical Adventures in Memeland and Beyond,” Goodspeed Lecture, Denison University, April 17, 2014.

“The Rise and Fall of the Bible: The Digital Revolution and the Future of the Good Book,” Cleveland State University, April 22, 2014.

“The Rise and Fall of the Bible: Evangelical Capitalism, the Digital Revolution, and the Twilight of the Good Book,” McGaughy Lecture, Willamette University, February 27, 2014

“Tracing the Other in Translation: Levinas, Alterity, and the Task of the Biblical Translator,” keynote address for special session on “Translating Alterity” co-hosted by the Nida Institute for Biblical Scholarship, annual meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, November 25, 2013.

“The Bible and Democracy in America,” an academic symposium developed, planned, and hosted by myself and co-sponsored by Wheaton College and the American Bible Society at Wheaton College, October 25-26, 2013.

“Putin, Pussy Riot, and the Art of Resistance,” faculty panel discussion at Vanderbilt University, April 3, 2013.

- “The End of the Word as We Know It: Rediscovering Scriptures after the Death of the Bible,” Berchenal Lecture, Eckerd College, April 4, 2013.
- “The Greatest Story Ever Sold: Evangelical Capitalism, the Digital Revolution, and the End of the Word As We Know It,” Batey Lecture, Rhodes College, January 24, 2013.
- “Science in, of, and against the Bible,” keynote lecture in a series on religion and science funded by the John Templeton Foundation, Glencoe Union Church, Glencoe, IL, January 11, 2013.
- “The Bible is Dead: Love Live the Bible,” Gallagher Memorial Lecture, Albright College, October 24, 2012.
- “Obama’s ‘Phony Theology’ Revealed: Biblical Battles for Higher, Holier Ground in the Presidential Race,” Marting Lecture, Baldwin-Wallace College, April 18, 2012.
- “The Future of the Bible,” public lecture, Seattle Pacific University, January 30, 2012.
- “Theorizing and Doing Religion – Good, Bad, or Monstrous?” public lecture, University of Glasgow, Scotland, Nov. 28, 2011.
- “The Bible after the Bible,” keynote address, The Bible Seminar inaugural meeting of the Jesus Seminar, Westar Institute, Berkeley, CA, November 18, 2011.
- “From the King James Bible to Biblezines: The History of a Cultural Icon,” Kripke Lecture, Creighton Univ., Nov. 2, 2011.
- “Will the King James Bible Go the Way of All Flesh?” (co-lecture on comparative scriptures with William E. Deal), Montana State Univ., Oct. 25, 2011.
- “Bible Technology: Now and Then” (panelist). International Society of Biblical Literature, London, July 6, 2011.
- “The End of the Word as We Know It: The Bible in the Twilight of Print Culture,” Annual James Kirk Lecture, University of Denver, April 26, 2011.
- “The Rise and Fall of the Bible,” public lecture, Hamilton College, April 8, 2011.
- “The End of the Word as We Know It: The Cultural Iconicity of the Bible in the

Twilight of Print Culture," Third Interdisciplinary Symposium on Iconic Books, Syracuse University, October 1, 2010.

"Video Mashup as Critical Academic Discourse," International Society of Religion, Literature, and Culture bi-annual meeting, St. Catherine's College, Oxford University, Oxford, UK, September 24, 2010.

"The End of the Word as We Know It: Evangelical Capitalism, Book Culture, and the Cultural Icon of the Bible," annual keynote address, American Academy of Religion, Great Rocky Mountain – Great Plains Region, Creighton University, Omaha, NE, April 9, 2010.

"Biblical Literacy," Robert M. Metcalf Lecture and Symposium, Memphis University School, Memphis, TN, March 18, 2010.

"Jesus, Dismember Me, When You Come into Your Kingdom: Dis/figuring Religion in *Jesus of Montreal*," American Academy of Religion annual meeting, Montreal, Canada, November 8, 2009.

"The Medium is the Icon," Second Interdisciplinary Symposium on Iconic Books, Hamilton College, September 5, 2009.

Participant, roundtable on the influence of Walter Brueggemann, annual meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, November 22, 2008.

"Presidential Ecotheologies," Public Policy Forum, Case Western Reserve University, October 10, 2008.

"The End of the Word as We Know It, and I Feel Fine: The Bible in the Twilight of Print Culture," American Academy of Religion / Society of Biblical Literature annual meeting, San Diego, CA, November 19, 2007.

"Strangely Familiar: A Roadside Approach to Religion in America," Religious Studies Colloquium lecture, hosted by Religious Studies and the Halsey Institute of Contemporary Art, College of Charleston, October 25, 2007.

"The End of the Word as We Know It: Reinventing the Bible in an Age of Consumerism," annual lecture on Bible and contemporary culture sponsored by the Presbyterian Church (USA), Maryville College, October 8, 2007.

"Emergencies, Emergences, and the Fate of the Disciplines in the Discourse of the Humanities," Consortium of Humanities Centers and Institutes annual meeting, University of Chicago, April 27, 2006.

“Roadside Religion,” McCarthy Lecture in Theology and the Arts, Washington Theological Union, March 26, 2006.

“Religion by the Roadside,” public lecture, Juniata College, March 15, 2006.

“Roadside Religion: American Holy Lands,” American Academy of Religion / Society of Biblical Literature annual meeting, Philadelphia, November 21, 2005.

“Literary Awakenings,” with Darcey Steinke, The Goethe-Institut, New York, October 20, 2005.

“Cinema Sacra: Christology in the Gospels of Gibson and Pasolini,” keynote address for the conference, “Sacred Text, Sacred Film?” University of Central Florida, April 3, 2005

“Cultural Histories of the Bible,” International Society of Biblical Literature annual meeting, Groningen, Netherlands, July 27, 2004.

“Roadside Religion: Biblical Recreation and the American Religious Imagination,” Robert S. Mason Lecture, Georgetown University, March 1, 2004.

“Religious Recreation,” St. Peter Cathedral public lecture, Cleveland, OH, February 16, 2004.

“Mimetic Monsters,” Reading, Theory, and the Bible Section of the Society of Biblical Literature annual meeting, Atlanta, GA, November 23, 2003.

“Vigilantes of Christendom and the White Racist Bible,” keynote lecture of the annual meeting of the Central States Society of Biblical Literature, St. Louis, MO, April 5, 2003.

“From the Veil: Derrida, Cixous, and Paul” (with Tod Linafelt), special session on Jacques Derrida and biblical interpretation, Society of Biblical Literature and American Academy of Religion annual meeting, Toronto, November, 2002.

“The White Supremacist Bible and the Phineas Priesthood,” Masterclass on Religion and Violence, Amsterdam, Netherlands, April 2002.

“Hate among the Ruins,” Society for the Anthropology of Religion annual meeting, Cleveland, OH, April 2002.

“Our Monsters, Ourselves,” public lecture at Texas Christian University, Fort Worth, TX, April 2002.

- “Ritual and the Production of Space at the former Aryan Nations Compound in Hayden, Idaho,” religion faculty symposium, Texas Christian University, Fort Worth, TX, April 2002.
- “Florida Horrorscapes,” keynote address for national film studies conference, “Visions of Nature, Voices of Nature,” St. Petersburg, FL, January 2002.
- “Beowulf’s Bible: The Monsters and the Biblical Critics” (with Tod Linafelt). Reading, Theory, and the Bible Section of the Society of Biblical Literature annual meeting, Denver, CO, November 2001.
- “Religion and Its Monsters, Monsters and Their Religion,” religion faculty symposium, University of Vermont, Burlington, VT, March 2001.
- “Structure, Sign and Monstrosity in the Discourse of the Human Sciences: Cosmogony, Apocalypse and the Mythopoetics of Theory,” Literary Criticism and Biblical Interpretation Section of the Society for Literature and Religion, University of Nijmegen, Netherlands, September 2000.
- “Saint Lovecraft and the Cthulhu Mythos: Religion, Hagiography, and Horror,” American Literature and Religion Section of the Society for Literature and Religion. University of Nijmegen, Netherlands, September 2000.
- “Cthulhu in 2000: Chaos Monsters and Popular Culture,” Northeast Regional meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Syracuse, NY, March 2000.
- “Gods, Monsters, and the Witch’s Monkeys,” Work-in-Progress Colloquium of the Baker-Nord Center for the Humanities, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH, February 2000.
- “Bataille’s Religion,” Religion and Literature Colloquium, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH, December 1999.
- “Colonising, and Colonised, Old Testament” (with Yvonne Sherwood), New Historicism and Biblical Studies Consultation of the Society for Biblical Literature, Boston, MA, November 1999.
- “*Monstrum tremendum et fascinans*: Religion and Horror,” Arts, Literature, and Religion Section of the Southeast Regional American Academy of Religion, Chapel Hill, NC, March 1999.
- “Semiotics of the Monstrous: Rousing Leviathan in Job and Hobbes,” Semiotics and Exegesis Section of the Society of Biblical Literature.

Orlando, FL, November 1998.

“Biblical/Hypertextual Spaces and the Pedagogy of Estrangement,” Academic Teaching and Study of Religion Section of the American Academy of Religion, Orlando, FL, November 1998.

“The Body in Pain, the Body Politic, and the Monstrous,” public lecture, Georgetown University, Washington, DC, March 1998.

“The Influences of Hellenism on Judaism,” Visiting Scholar Lecture, Temple Beth El. St. Petersburg, FL, February 1998.

## **HONORS and AWARDS**

**Public Scholar Award**, National Endowment for the Humanities, 2016.

**Marsico Visiting Scholar**, Denver University, Spring 2016.

**Library Journal Award for Best Print Reference in the Humanities** for *The Oxford Encyclopedia of the Bible and the Arts*, 2015.

**Nida Professor**, Nida School of Translation Studies, San Pellegrino University, May-June 2014.

**Nominee**, Carl F. Wittke Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching, 2011.

**Alumnus of the Year**, Emory University Graduate Division of Religion, 2009.

**Nominee**, Carl F. Wittke Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching, 2009.

**Editor’s Choice**, *New York Times Book Review* for *Roadside Religion*, 2005.

**Best Religion Books of 2005**, *Publishers Weekly*, for *Roadside Religion*, 2005.

**Top 10 Editors’ Picks**, *Amazon.com* for Christianity for *Roadside Religion*, 2005.

**Nominations for Pulitzer Prize and Grawemeyer Award** for *Roadside Religion*, 2005.

**Award for Teaching Excellence**, Northeast Ohio Council on Higher Education, 2004.

**Nominee**, Carl F. Wittke Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching, 2003.



**Editor's Choice, *Reviews in Religion and Theology*** for *Religion and Its Monsters*, 2002.

**Nominee, Carl F. Wittke Award**, 2001.

**Professor of the Year**, Alpha Phi, Case Western Reserve University Chapter, 2001.

## GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

**National Endowment for the Humanities Public Scholar Award**, \$29,500 in support of writing and publishing *Revelation: A Biography* (forthcoming with Princeton University Press), January through July, 2016.

**Research Working Group Grant, "Word Processing: Media in Translation,"** funded by the Baker-Nord Center for the Humanities (\$3,500) to organize and conduct initial research in developing alternative biblical translation strategies in emerging digital media technologies, 2014-15.

**Foreign Travel Grant**, Baker-Nord Center for the Humanities (\$1,000), 2014.

**Digital Technology Grant**, Baker-Nord Center for the Humanities (\$1,000), 2012.

**Travel Grant**, Baker-Nord Center for the Humanities (\$1,000), 2010.

**Dean's Opportunity Grant (\$1,000)**, to create video mashup on religion and horror, 2010.

**Cleveland Foundation / Presidential Initiative Fund grant (\$1.82 million)**, Case Western Reserve University, funded by The Cleveland Foundation. Funding to develop new programming in the Baker-Nord Center for the Humanities, including an annual thematic seminar integrated with senior faculty fellowships and visiting fellowships. This new program is featured in the 2004 American Association of Universities report, *Reinvigorating the Humanities* (\$1.82 million; PI 2003-2007).

**Foreign Travel Grant (\$2,000)**, Baker-Nord Center for the Humanities, 2007.

**Library Opportunity Grant (\$2,250)**, "Holy Bible Business," Kelvin Smith Library, 2006.

**Senior Faculty Fellow (\$4,800)**, "The White Supremacist Bible," funded by Case Western Reserve University and the Ohio Board of Regents Challenge Program, 2001.

**Lilly Endowment Inc. Grant Co-Director (\$11,000)**, "Bible and Pop Culture: A

Multimedia CD-Rom Project for Teaching in Biblical Studies” (with Tod Linafelt), 1997-1998.

**Fellowship, Faculty Roles, Rewards, and Institutional Priorities**, funded by the Consortium for the Advancement of Private Higher Education (Kathryn J. Watson, director), 1996-1998.

**Associate Director, Rhodes Consultation on the Church Related College**, funded by Lilly Endowment Inc. (\$1.49 million total). Fellow 1995-1996; Associate Director 1997-1999.

**Fellowship, Science and Humanities: Integrating Undergraduate Education**, to develop the Environmental Studies major at Eckerd College), funded by the NEH and the NSF, 1996.

**Scholarship, American Schools of Oriental Research**, for archeological research at Tell Nimrin, Shuna South, Jordan, 1993.

## **COLLABORATIVE PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES**

**Natural Language Processing / Python Working Group (2015 to present)**, a collaboration of religionists from Iliff School of Theology, University of Denver, and Case Western Reserve University who are learning to code in Python in order to build projects in Natural Language Processing vis-à-vis biblical studies. Projects include @kjvbot, a machine learning program coded in Python that generates Bible-like Markov chain utterances based on the King James Version text and tweets them to <http://twitter.com/kjvbot>. See also the web application at <http://apps.iliff.edu/nlp/kjvbot/apps.iliff.edu/nlp/kjvbot/>. Code for this project and others is available on Github at <https://github.com/timothybeal> github.com/timothybeal. I have also created modules that do similar biblical text generation in Hebrew, Greek, and Norwegian, as well as a bot that writes four-line poems based on the complete works of Emily Dickinson.

**Translating Alterity (2013 to present)**, a collaboration exploring means of translation that highlight the alterity of Hebrew and Greek biblical texts (rather than domesticating them, which has been the dominant strategy for centuries). The research working group, **“Word Processing: Media in Translation” (fall 2014)**, funded by the Baker-Nord Center for the Humanities (fall 2014), which is an interdisciplinary exploratory group interested in the developing alternative biblical translation strategies in emerging digital media technologies, dovetails with this major initiative’s second objective.

In light of the success of the research working group during the fall of 2014, our group is now considering a second phase of research with the grant application **“TOHU App: Altering Translation in New Media.”** The goal would be to design and

build an interactive, scalable beta app that hosts an encounter with the process of biblical translation for college students and other non-specialists. Tentatively named Tohu, this app will be built around the process of translating one small biblical text, the first three verses of the creation story in Genesis 1. With this beta app completed, we plan to seek long-term funding for a complete, fully functional app.

**BibleOdyssey.com and .org (2011 to 2016)**, an NEH-funded initiative of the Society of Biblical Literature to create and maintain a major online resource for the general public to find accessible, reliable, non-partisan information about biblical literature and its social-historical contexts. I serve on the Editorial Board and have contributed several video interviews on specific topics.

**Letterpress** project involving biblical translations handset and printed on a POCO #0 proof press using Poliphilus type.

**Religion and Democracy in America (2012-13)**, an academic conference co-sponsored by the American Bible Society and Wheaton College to foster nationwide public conversation on the place and roll of the Bible in democratic society, past, present, and future. From 2011 to 2013, I worked with the American Bible Society and Wheaton College to plan, organize, and host the two-day conference, which took place October 25-26, 2013.

**Baker-Nord Seminars (2004-2007)**. Developed, hosted, and led three semester-long interdisciplinary thematic seminars including faculty fellows from across the university, scholars and artists from other University Circle institutions, leaders from the larger Northeast Ohio community, and high-profile visiting fellows (e.g., Mieke Bal, W.J.T. Mitchell, Avital Ronell, S. Brent Plate, Angela Johnson, Shahram Entekabi, and Myra Bluebond-Langner). The themes were “Homelands and Security” (fall 2004), “Childhoods” (fall 2005), and “Information” (fall 2006). In the spring of each year, we hosted a “Humanities Week” series of special programs related to fall seminar’s theme. Sponsored by the Baker-Nord Center for the Humanities with major funding from a Presidential Initiative Grant.

**Visual Ethics Symposium (2007)**. In collaboration with William E. Deal and Brent Plate, planned and hosted a scholarly symposium on “Visual Ethics,” interdisciplinary field that intersects with religious studies, cognitive science, journalism and media studies, and social scientific understandings of the ways humans make sense of cultural identities through images.

**Getting Published (2007)**. In collaboration with Mary Davis, Department of Music, developed and hosted a series of five panels for professors and graduate students on contemporary issues in academic publishing: “Publishing with University Presses,” “Publishing for Trade,” “Before You Sign that Contract,” “Fair Use, Copyright, and Other Nuts and Bolts,” and “New Horizons in Digital Publishing.” Guest speakers included authors, literary agents, and editors from academic and trade presses.

**Information (DVD; 2006).** Co-produced (with Media Services) a DVD and streaming video of interviews with and lectures by Baker-Nord Seminar visiting fellows W.J.T. Mitchell, Avital Ronell, and S. Brent Plate. Sponsored by the Baker-Nord Center for the Humanities.

**American Council of Learned Societies programming (2004-2006).** Planned and hosted a full day of academic and administrative programming at Case Western Reserve University as part of the ACLS Conference of Administrative Officer in Cleveland, OH in November of 2004. Over the following two years (2005-2006), served as consultant to the CWRU president, Edward M. Hundert, in a series of meetings of the joint Humanities Steering Committee of the ACLS and the Association of American Universities (AAU), convened by him and ACLS President Pauline Yu. These meetings culminated in the *ACLS/AAU Humanities Convocation: Reinvigorating the Humanities* in Philadelphia on May 12, 2006.

**Reinvigorating the Humanities Roundtables (2006).** Planned and led a series of three university-wide roundtables on the future of the academic humanities, including faculty members, administrators, staff members, and students in all fields. The results were shared at the *ACLS/AAU Humanities Convocation: Reinvigorating the Humanities* (May 2006). Hosted by the Baker-Nord Center for the Humanities.

**Religion, Terrorism, and the Law (2005).** In collaboration with Professors Amos Guiora and Jessie Hill, School of Law, and William E. Deal, Department of Religious Studies, planned and co-hosted a two-day interdisciplinary seminar on religion and terrorism.

**GLUB (2004).** As part of the Baker-Nord Seminar on “Homelands and Security,” helped produce GLUB, a multimedia exhibit exploring aesthetics of human migration created by Shahram Entekabi and Mieke Bal, installed and exhibited during the fall of 2004 at the Art Studio Gallery at Case Western Reserve University. Sponsored by the Baker-Nord Center for the Humanities.

**Religion and Culture Symposia (2002-2004).** Planned and hosted three day-long interdisciplinary symposia at CWRU’s Manor House at Squire Valleeview Farm. The themes were: “Religion and Globalization” (2002), “Religion on the Brain” (2003), and “Evil” (2004).

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

**Publications Task Force, American Academy of Religion** (subcommittees on digital scholarship and fostering cutting-edge scholarship among younger scholars), November 2016 to present.

**Editorial Board, Bible Odyssey Project,** Society of Biblical Literature (NEH-funded

project to bring biblical scholarship to the broader public), 2011 to present.

**Board of Trustees, Society for Comparative Research on Iconic and Performative Texts (SCRIPT)**, 2010 to present.

**Selection committee, Prize for Biblical Studies and Reception History** for best dissertation or first book in reception history, Society of Biblical Literature and de Gruyter, 2013 to present.

**Elder, Presbyterian Church (USA)**, and frequent teacher in adult education programs of Presbyterian and other congregations, 1998 to present.

**Consultant, American Bible Society**, for a scholarly symposium at Wheaton College on the Bible in America, 2011-2013.

**Editorial Board, *Biblical Interpretation***, 2010 to present.

**Advisory Board, *Old Testament Essays***, 2009 to present.

**Editorial Board, *Postscripts***, 2004 to present.

**Editorial Board, *Journal for the Study of the Old Testament***, 2000 to 2011.

**Honors Examiner**, Swarthmore College, Department of Religion, 2011.

**Co-editor, *Afterlives of the Bible* book series**, University of Chicago Press, 2003-2010.

**Editorial Board, *Golem*** (scholarly journal on religion and horror), 2005-2009.

**Co-director, Interdisciplinary Initiative on Religion and Culture** (with Thomas Csordas), Case Western Reserve University, 2001-2007.

**Steering Committee Member, Reading, Theory, and Bible Section** of the Society of Biblical Literature, 1999-2004.

**Chair, Reading, Theory, and Bible Section, Society of Biblical Literature**, 1995-1998.

**Director, Senior Capstone Common Course (college-wide)**, Eckerd College, 1995-1997.

**Co-chair (with Danna Nolan Fewell), Reading, Rhetoric, and the Hebrew Bible Section of the Society of Biblical Literature**, 1994-1995.

**Editorial Assistant, *Literary Currents in Biblical Interpretation*** (David M. Gunn

and Danna Nolan Fewell, editors), Westminster John Knox Press, 1991-1994.

**Assistant Site Director** for the archeological excavation at Tell Nimrin (Shuna South), Jordan (James W. Flanagan and David McCreery, directors), summer 1993.

**Boiler Fireman and Will-call**, D.A. Burns & Sons, Carpet and Upholstery Cleaners, Seattle, Washington, 1986-1988.

## **UNIVERSITY SERVICE**

**Department Chair**, Department of Religious Studies

**Chair, Common Reading Selection Committee**, 2011 to present.

**Co-chair, Thinking Group on Campus Culture and Environment, Provost's Committee on Undergraduate Education (CUE)**, January 2017 to present.

**Faculty Senate**, 2013 to 2016.

**Promotion Committee**, Art and Art History, 2015.

**Executive Committee**, College of Arts and Sciences, 2011 to 2014; ad hoc committee on instructor-track appointment and promotion; ad hoc committee on promoting digital humanities.

**Promotion Committee**, Classics, 2014.

**Search Committee**, Hallinan Chair of Catholic Studies, 2013-2014.

**Promotion Committee Chair**, Art and Art History, 2013-2014.

**Search Committee**, Director of Baker-Nord Center for the Humanities, 2012-2013.

**Strategic Plan, Academic Excellence Working Group**, 2012-2013.

**Committee on Appointments**, College of Arts and Sciences, 2011-2013.

**Faculty Senate**, 2009-2012.

**Faculty Spotlight Lecture**, President's House, December 12, 2011.

**Dean Review Committee**, College of Arts and Sciences and Office of the Provost, spring 2011.

**Social Justice Alliance Working Group**, 2009-2011.

**Lecturer and discussion leader**, University Trustee Partner Program, June 4, 2010.

**Environmental Studies Advisory Committee**, 2009 to present.

**Social Justice Search Committee**, 2010-2011.

**Search Committee**, Department of Sociology, 2009 to 2011.

**Consultant**, Cleveland Museum of Art, "Heavenly Treasures" exhibit and program, 2009-2010.

**University Research Council**, August 2006-2009; Agenda Committee, 2008-2009.

**Research Taskforce**, College of Arts and Sciences, Strategic Planning, 2008.

**Executive Committee**, College of Arts and Sciences, 2004-2007; ad hoc committee considering the creation of non-tenure-track assistant professor faculty positions.

**Great Minds, Great Friends** scholarly presentation, October 10, 2007.

**University Representative** to the American Council of Learned Societies, 2003-2007. Consultant to the president on the joint Humanities Steering Committee of the ACLS and the Association of American Universities.

**Faculty Senate**, 2001-2004.

**Committee on the Status of Women**, University Faculty Senate, 2002-2005.

**Women's Center Steering Committee**, 2003-2006.

**Library Committee**, 2004-2007

**Share the Vision common book selection committee**, 2003-2006.

**University Distinguished Lecture Committee**, 2003-2005.

**First Seminar Committee**, College of Arts and Sciences, 2003-2007. Chair, 2004-2005.

**Executive Committee**, College of Arts and Sciences, 2000-2003; Chair Council Representative, 2000-2001; Faculty Senate Representative, 2002-2003.

**Featured speaker**, College of Arts and Sciences Visiting Committee, September 2002.

**Selection Committee**, WP Jones Fellowships, 2001-2002.

**Freshman advisor**, SAGES General Education pilot program, 2002.

**Dean's Task Force on General Education Requirements**, College of Arts and Sciences, 2001. Continuation of the work of the Subcommittee on General Education Requirements.

**Faculty Interviewer**, Adelbert Squire Scholarship, 2000.

**Subcommittee on General Education Requirements**, 1999-2001. Redesignated the core curriculum, including developing and piloting the prototype for SAGES (Seminar Approach to General Education and Scholarship).

**Representative of Religion Department**, prospective student weekends, 1999 to present.