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Citizenship: Australian

CURRENT POSITIONS

GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY, Washington D.C.

Jeanette W. and Otto J. Ruesch Family Associate Professor

Director of Graduate Studies, Department of Theology

Senior Fellow, Prince Al-Waleed bin Talal Center for Muslim-Christian Understanding

Senior Fellow, Woodstock Theological Center

Member of Associate Faculty, Department of Arabic and Islamic Studies

Member College Curriculum Committee, College of Arts and Sciences

AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY

Honorary Professorial Fellow

PONTIFICAL COUNCIL FOR INTERRELIGIOUS DIALOGUE, Vatican City.

Consultor of the Commission for Religious Relations with Muslims 2005–2010.

EDITORIAL ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERSHIPS

Theological Studies

Ephemerides Theologicae Lovaniensis

Satya Nilayam: Chennai Journal of Intercultural Philosophy

Dilatato Corde: on-line journal of the Monastic Interreligious Dialogue

Christian Commentaries on Non-Christian Sacred Texts (Peeters, Leuven)

EDUCATION

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, New York, NY.

Ph.D. in Islamic Religion, awarded with Distinction, February 1997. Dissertation: “‘The *Kitāb* of which there is no doubt ...’ Books, writing and canon in the Qur’ān’s description of itself.”

Examiners: William A. Graham (supervisor), Jeanette A. Wakin, Peter J. Awn (sponsor), David Weiss Halivni, Celia M. Deutsch. Published Ann-Arbor: U.M.I., 1997.

M. Phil., awarded May 1993.

Certificate in Southern Asia, School of International and Public Affairs.

Faculty Fellow 1989–90; President’s Fellow 1990–94.

Member of Graduate School Advisory Council, 1990–1992.

HARVARD UNIVERSITY, Cambridge, MA.

Exchange Scholar, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, 1992–1994.

Fellow-in-Residence, Center for the Study of World Religions, 1992–3.

DAR COMBONI INSTITUTE OF ARABIC, Cairo, Egypt, 1988–89.

Graduated from 2 year programme *summa cum laude*.

VIDYAJYOTI INSTITUTE OF RELIGIOUS STUDIES, Delhi, India, 1984–5.

Studies in Islam and Urdu.

MELBOURNE COLLEGE OF DIVINITY, Melbourne, Australia. 1980–83.

Bachelor of Divinity, December, 1983.

Member of the College, 1982–3.

Member of B. Theol. Board, 1982–3.

JESUIT THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE, Melbourne. 1973, 1980–83, 1985.

Studies in Philosophy and Theology for Bachelor of Divinity and for ordination in the Roman Catholic Church. Member of College Council 1981, 1982.

MONASH UNIVERSITY, Melbourne. 1974–77.

Bachelor of Arts with First Class Honours in History; first ranked in History Department, December 1977.

TEACHING AND OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2008–present GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY, DEPARTMENT OF THEOLOGY

Associate Professor. Undergraduate courses taught: Islamic Religious Thought and Practice; Muslims, Jews and Christians; Who Can Be Saved?; Senior Majors' Seminar on Religious Pluralism. Graduate seminars taught: The Qur'an and its Readers; Christian Theologies Responsive to Islam. Completed doctoral dissertation supervised: "Towards a 'Muslima' Theology of Religious Pluralism: The Qur'an, Feminist Theology and Religious Diversity," by Jerusha Tanner Lamptey (April, 2011).

2008–2010 WOODSTOCK JESUIT COMMUNITY, Washington DC

Community Superior.

2007–2008 WOODSTOCK THEOLOGICAL CENTER, Washington DC

International Visiting Fellow.

2000–2007 PONTIFICAL GREGORIAN UNIVERSITY, Rome

Asst. Professor of Islamic Studies and Interreligious Dialogue. Courses taught: Muslims and Christians; Introduction to Christianity for believers of other traditions (in English and French); Classical Sufi texts; Islam – the formative years; Concepts of faith and revelation in the Abrahamic traditions; Three spiritual classics from Asia; Musulmani e cristiani; Lo sviluppo dell'islam classico; Il Corano e la sua interpretazione; Dialogo e missione; Temi della teologia cristiana; Teologia e pluralismo religioso.

Completed doctoral dissertations supervised: "The implications of Muslim and Christian feminist discourse for interreligious dialogue: a case study of northern Nigeria," by Kathleen Anne Marie McGarvey (Faculty of Missiology, PUG, 2006); "Le pluralisme religieux selon l'Islam" by M. Moustapha Ousmane (Al-Zaytuna University, Tunis, 2007).

Founding Director, Institute for the Study of Religions and Cultures. Responsible for the development and administration of an interdisciplinary Master's programme designed to prepare people to work in the field of interreligious dialogue. Responsibilities: preparation of the accreditation proposal (2000–2002), involving curriculum design and the development of statutes and regulations; liaison with Jesuit and Vatican authorities; faculty recruitment; establishing and maintaining international academic networks and exchange programmes; strategic planning; fundraising.

2001 – 2007 ORATORIO DI SAN FRANCESCO SAVERIO 'DEL CARAVITA,' Rome

Rector

2003 – 2007 ANKARA UNIVERSITY, Ankara, Turkey

Visiting Professor, Faculty of Divinity

July 2005 CENTRAL EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY, Budapest

Visiting Professor, Summer University

July – BOSTON COLLEGE, Chestnut Hill, MA

Aug 2005 *Visiting Professor, Institute for Religious Education and Pastoral Ministry*

- Jan 1998 – Sept 1999 JESUIT PUBLICATIONS, Richmond, Victoria, Australia
Executive Director. Publisher of the magazines *Eureka Street*, a journal of public affairs, theology and the arts; *Madonna*, a magazine of popular spirituality; and *Australian Catholics*, a school- and family-oriented, general magazine. Publisher of Aurora Books.
- THE UNITED FACULTY OF THEOLOGY, Melbourne, Victoria
Lecturer in Islamic Studies and Theology of Religions. Consultant to Ecumenical Affairs Commissions of the dioceses of Melbourne and Sandhurst. Adult education lecturer.
- PACIFICA: JOURNAL OF THE MELBOURNE COLLEGE OF DIVINITY
Editor-in-chief. A journal of theology, scripture and church history.
- NEWMAN COLLEGE WITHIN THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE, Victoria
Chaplain
- 1991–97 COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, New York, NY.
Visiting Assistant Professor, Dept. of Religion, 1997.
 —Seminars on Sufi texts (undergraduate), Muhammad and the Jews (graduate), and lecture course on the early history of Islam (mixed). General introduction to Islam: lecture course for incoming doctoral students.
Lecturer, National Resource Center for International Studies, 1997.
 —Lectures for High School teachers: Introduction to Islam, and Islam in Asia.
Instructor in Urdu, Dept. of Middle East Languages and Cultures, 1991, 1994.
 —Taught introductory, intermediate and advanced Urdu language and literature.
Teaching Assistant and Reader for courses on Qurʾān and on Islamic Civilization, Dept. of Middle East and Asian Languages and Cultures. 1992, 1994.
Departmental Research Assistant, Dept. of Religion, 1991–1992.
 —Assisted in academic advising of senior theses.
Rapporteur, University Seminar on Tradition and Change in South and South-East Asia, 1991–2.
Lecturer, Institute of Asian Studies, Inc., In-service course on Middle East for pre-collegiate educators, 1994.
- 1991 ADULT EDUCATION COURSES in New York Area.
 —Lectured on Judaism, Christianity and Islam at Riverside Church, New York, NY; Sth Presbyterian Church, Dobbs Ferry, NY; and Montclair Adult School, NJ.
- 1990 FORDHAM UNIVERSITY, New York, NY.
Adjunct Professor in Middle East Studies Program.
Referee for International Philosophical Quarterly.
- 1987–88 PASTORAL INSTITUTE, Multan, Pakistan.
Founding Editor, Umeed-e-Nau—a bilingual (Urdu/English) journal of theology and spirituality.
- 1985–88 LOYOLA HALL, Lahore, Pakistan.
Assistant Director and Dean of Students
 —Responsible for undergraduate and graduate students living in multi-religious environment: Tutor in English, Urdu and Chemistry. Lecturer in Church History.
Librarian (1986–88)
 —Responsible for small (10,000 vols.) library, specializing in the study of religions (esp. Islam) and the history and culture of the Indian Sub-continent.
Director, Murree Language Programme (1987)
 —Responsible for three-month residential intensive language courses in Urdu and Punjabi.
Founding Member, Pakistan Association for Inter-Religious Dialogue.
Member, Catholic Diocese of Lahore Commission on Muslim-Christian Dialogue.
Acting Director, WAVE Studios, Lahore (1986–7)
- 1981–83 CATHOLIC COMMUNICATIONS, Melbourne, Australia.
Production Assistant and scriptwriter, television.
 —Responsible for scripting and production of weekly network-broadcast program, *Sunday*

Magazine.

Producer and director, radio and educational video.

1978–79 ST. ALOYSIUS' COLLEGE, Sydney, Australia.
—Taught High School Modern History, Mathematics, General Science, Latin, Religion, Music and Drama. Coached Rugby.

LANGUAGES

English (native speaker), Urdu, Italian and French.

More limited oral communication; reading ability: Arabic, Spanish and German.

For research: Biblical Hebrew, Syriac, Farsi, Hindi, Latin, Greek.

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

American Academy of Religion

American Oriental Society

Australian Catholic Theological Association

Catholic Theological Society of America

Middle East Studies Association

Society for Biblical Literature

PUBLICATIONS

The Qur'an's Self-Image: Writing and Authority in Islam's Scripture. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2001.

"The Uncertain Edges of the Authoritative Text: Where Is the Authority of the Qur'an Actually Located?" In Thomas Hoffmann and Jean Butler (eds.) *Qur'anic Studies: Literary and Hermeneutical Dimensions*, Leiden: E. J. Brill, forthcoming.

"God's Word to the World: Jesus and the Qur'an, Incarnation and Recitation." In Terence Merrigan and Frederik Glorieux (eds.), *Godhead here in hiding: Incarnation and the history of human suffering*. Leuven: Peeters, forthcoming, 143–158.

"Particularity, Universality and Finality: Insights from the Gospel of John." In David Marshall (ed.), *Communicating the Word*. Washington DC: Georgetown University Press, in press.

"The Body of Christ: 1 Corinthians 11:23-27 and 12:12-13, 27." In David Marshall (ed.), *Communicating the Word*. Washington DC: Georgetown University Press, in press.

"Dialogue in Difficult Times." In James Heft (ed.), *Catholicism and Interreligious Dialogue*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2011.

"Human Alienation: *al-Baqara* 2:36–39; *Tā' Hā'* 20:115–24." In Michael Ipgrave and David Marshall (eds.), *Humanity: Texts and Contexts: Christian and Muslim Perspectives*. Washington DC: Georgetown University Press, 2011.

"Yahya bin Zakariya, Giovanni Battista e il Culmine della Profezia." In Paolo Gamberini (ed.), *Un profeta e tre religioni: Giovanni Battista nei Monoteismi*. Trapani: Il Pozzo di Giacobbe, 2011.

"Saving Dominus Iesus," in James Heft, Reuven Firestone and Omid Safi (eds.), *Learned Ignorance: An Investigation into Humility in Interreligious Dialogue among Christians, Muslims and Jews*. New York: Oxford, 2011.

"Mutual Theological Hospitality: Doing Theology In The Presence Of The 'Other'" in *Muslim & Christian Understanding: Theory and Application of "A Common Word"*. Palgrave, 2010, 57–66.

"The Believers (Sura 23)" and "Biblical Criticism. III. Islam." In *The Encyclopaedia of the Bible and its Reception*. Berlin; NY: de Gruyter, 2010.

"Abraham (Sura 14)" and "Arius, Arianism II – Islam." In *The Encyclopaedia of the Bible and its Reception* vol. 1. Berlin; NY: de Gruyter, 2009.

"Some Aspects of Christian Theologizing in Relation to Islam" *Asia Christian Review* 2 (2008): 2 & 3, 24–30.

"Small is Beautiful: Dialogue and the Future of the Planet." In F. Imoda and R. Papini (eds.), *The Catholic Church and the International Policy of the Holy See – L'Église Catholique et la Politique Internationale du Saint-Siège*. Milano: Edizioni Nagard, 2008, 224–231.

Foreword to Gabriel Saeed Reynolds (ed.), *The Qur'an in its Historical Context*. London: Routledge, 2007, x–xii.

"Islam." In *Diccionario del Espiritualidad Ignaciana*. Bilbao: Ediciones Mensajero, 2007, 1046–1050.

"People of the Word: Reading John's Prologue with a Muslim." *Review and Expositor* 104.1 (Winter 2007): 81–95.

"Pope Paul VI's 'map' of the Church in dialogue: are we still following it?" in G. Archetti (ed.), *Le dialogue possible: Paul VI et les cultures contemporaines*. Brescia: Istituto Paolo VI, 2007, 29–34.

- "Nostra Aetate and the Questions it Chose to Leave Open." *Gregorianum* 87.4 (2006): 781–796.
- "Muslim-Christian Dialogue in Difficult Times." *Notes e Documents: Institut Internationale Jacques Maritain*, n.s. 5 (2006), 10–22.
- "Themes and Topics." Chapter four of *The Cambridge Companion to the Qur'an*, edited by Jane Dammen McAuliffe. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2006, 80–95. Reprinted in *Islam*, edited by Mona Siddiqui. SAGE Benchmarks in Religious Studies. London, SAGE Publications, 2010.
- "The Limits of Self-referentiality in the Qur'an," in Stefan Wild (ed.) *Self-referentiality in the Qur'an; Diskurse der Arabistik* 11. Wiesbaden: Otto Harrassowitz, 2006, 59–70.
- "A response to Sebastian Painadath's 'Diversity of Religions, Unity in Spirituality,'" in *Religious Experience and Contemporary Theological Epistemology*, edited by L. Boeve, Y. De Maeseneer and S. Van den Bossche. Leuven: Peeters, 2005, 153–158.
- "Jesus and Muhammad: the sufficiency of prophecy," in Michael Ipgrave (ed.), *Bearing the Word: Prophecy in Biblical And Qur'anic Perspective*. Church Publishing, 2005.
- "Morte e dopo morte nel pensiero islamico" in A. Lambertino (ed.), *Homo Moriens: saggi sull'aldilà e sul destino ultimo dell'uomo*, Parma: Monte Università, 2004, 89–103.
- Article "Sacred Texts: Koran" in *The New Dictionary of the History of Ideas*. New York: Scribners, 2004, iv: 2164–7.
- Articles "Preserved Tablet," and "Revelation and Inspiration" in Jane Dammen McAuliffe, ed., *The Encyclopaedia of the Qur'an*, vol. 4. Leiden: E. J. Brill, 2004.
- "Gavin D'Costa's 'Vatican II and the status of other religions as salvific structures': a response." In Liam Bergin (ed.), *Faith, Word and Culture*, Dublin: Columba, 2004, 25–31.
- "Liturgy in a religiously plural world: Muslim and Christian worship in dialogue" in K. F. Pecklers (ed.), *Liturgy in a Postmodern World*. London; New York: Continuum, 2003, 169–176
- "Mary and Muhammad: Bearers of the Word." *Australasian Catholic Record* 80 (2003) 417–427.
- "Gottes Botschaft an die Welt: Christen und Muslime, Jesus und der Koran." *Communio* 32.1 (2003): 100–12.
- "The Word of God In Muslim Theology: Virtually Trinitarian?" Rome: Jesuit Secretariate for Interreligious Dialogue, 2002.
- "Ryan, John" in O'Neill and Dominguez, eds., *Diccionario Histórico de la Compañía de Jesús* (Roma: Institutum Historicum S.I., 2001) 4:3450.
- Articles "Book" and "Criterion" in Jane Dammen McAuliffe, ed., *The Encyclopaedia of the Qur'an*, vol. 1. Leiden: E. J. Brill, 2001.
- "When experience leads us to different beliefs." *The Way Supplement*, number 92, Summer 1998, Spirituality and religious experience, 64–74.
- "The search for Islam's scholasticism." In *Scholasticism: Cross-Cultural and Comparative Perspectives*. Edited by José Ignacio Cabezón. Albany: SUNY Press, 1998.
- "The *Kitab* of which there is no doubt ...' Books, writing and canon in the Qur'an's description of itself." Ph.D. Dissertation, Columbia University. Published Ann-Arbor: U.M.I., 1997.
- "Reflections on some current directions in Qur'anic studies." *The Muslim World* 85 (1995): 345–362.
- "Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer? A reflection on the passion and death of Jesus." *Umeed-e-Nau* (Multan, Pakistan) no. 3 (1989): 4–8.
- "Your will be done.' Passive fatalism or programme for liberation?" *Umeed-e-Nau* (Multan, Pakistan) no. 2 (1989): 14–23.
- "In search of a way into the Eucharist." *Umeed-e-Nau* (Multan, Pakistan) , 1 (1988) 14–31.
- "Pakistan's Emerging Theology." *Focus* (Multan, Pakistan) 8 (1988): 21–36.
- "John Ryan (1849–1922)." *Australian Dictionary of Biography*. General Editor, Geoffrey Searle. Melbourne: Melbourne University Press, 1986, 11: 93–4.
- "The Trinity in Muslim-Christian Dialogue." *Salaam* (Islamic Studies Association, N. Delhi), 5, 6 (1984–5).
- That's not a need; that's a right!* Produced and directed by Daniel A. Madigan. Melbourne: Catholic Communications, 1984. Videocassette, 47 mins.

BOOK REVIEWS:

- Arabic Christianity in the Monasteries of Ninth-Century Palestine*, by Sidney H. Griffith. *Journal of the American Oriental Society* 116.2 (1996).
- The Challenge of the Scriptures*, by the Muslim-Christian Research Group. *Pacifica: Australian Theological Studies* 4 (1991): 96–98.
- Islam and War*, by John Kelsay. *Theological Studies* 55 (1994): 395–6.
- Muhammad and the Origins of Islam*, by F. E. Peters. *Theological Studies* 56 (1995): 397–8.
- The Qur'an as Text*, edited by Stefan Wild. *Journal of the American Oriental Society*, December 1999.
- Shi'ite Islam*, by Yann Richard. *Theological Studies*, 57 (1996), 773–774.
- The Idea of Idolatry and the Emergence of Islam*, by G. R. Hawting, *Islamic Studies Quarterly*.

Qur'ān Translation: discourse, texture and exegesis by Hussein Abdul Raof, *Islam and Muslim Christian Relations* 13(2002): 338–340.

INVITED AND ACCEPTED PAPERS:

- “To What Extent Can a Christian Think of the Qur’ān as Scripture?” Seminar on Christian Theological Response to Islam, Second Session, Campion Hall, Oxford (14-15 January, 2011).
- “The Import of Recent Developments in the Historiography of Early Islam on a Christian Understanding of Muhammad.” Seminar on Christian Theological Response to Islam, First Session, Campion Hall, Oxford (12-13 November, 2010).
- “The uncertain edges of the authoritative text: where is the authority of the Qur’ān actually located?” American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, Atlanta (30 Oct – 1 Nov, 2010).
- “What does Comparative Theology mean in the case of Islam and Christianity?” Translating God(s) in Europe: Post Graduate Intensive Program. Irish School of Ecumenics, Dublin (20-26 June, 2010).
- “The Right to be Wrong: the legitimacy and limits of religious freedom.” Conference on Peace and Human Rights in the Abrahamic Traditions. Trinity College, Dublin (29-30 May, 2010).
- “When it comes to salvation, where exactly is ‘outside’?” Conference on Islam, Salvation and the Fate of the Other. University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana (16-17 April, 2010).
- “Negotiating Diverse Faith Commitments in the Qur’anic Classroom.” Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting, New Orleans (27-30 November, 2009).
- “Rethinking the term Islamophobia.” Conference on Islamophobia: The Experience in Worlds Old and New. Lessons from Europe and Australia. Monash University, Melbourne (18–19 July, 2009).
- “*Nostra Aetate’s* unanswered questions.” Conference: From Dialogue to Collaboration: The Vision of Fethullah Gülen and Muslim-Christian Relations. Australian Catholic University, Melbourne (15–16 July, 2009).
- “Does the Muslim Notion of God as One (*tawhid*) Contradict the Christian Doctrine of the Trinity?” Catholic Theological Society of America Convention. Halifax, Nova Scotia (4–7 June, 2009).
- “Mutual Theological Hospitality – Doing theology in the presence of the ‘other.’” Rudolph C. Barnes Sr. Symposium: Theory and Application of *A Common Word*. University of South Carolina Law School (26-27 March, 2009).
- “Some Aspects of Christian Theologizing in Relation to Islam.” Intra-Christian Consultation on Christian Self-Understanding in Relation to Islam. World Council of Churches, Geneva (18–20 October, 2008).
- “The way forward from here.” Conference “*A Common Word* and the Future of Muslim-Christian Engagement.” Cambridge University (12–15 October, 2008).
- “John the Baptist, Yahya b. Zakariya and the End of Prophecy.” The Catholic Theological Society of America, Miami (5–8 June, 2008).
- “Particularity, Universality and Finality in Revelation.” Seventh *Building Bridges Seminar*, Villa Palazzola, Rome (5–8 May, 2008).
- “Catholicism and Islam.” Institute of Advanced Catholic Studies, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, (19 February, 2008).
- “A Word in Common between Us and You’: Getting our Categories Right in the Theological Encounter.” Catholic University of America, Washington DC (7 February, 2008).
- “The Vatican and Islam.” Al-Waleed Center for Muslim-Christian Understanding, Georgetown University, Washington DC (12 September, 2007).
- “*Dominus Iesus*, Insiders and Outsiders.” Institute for Advanced Catholic Studies (University of Southern California), Tantur Ecumenical Institute, Jerusalem (19–21 June, 2007).
- “‘Small is Beautiful’: Sustainable dialogue and the Future of the Planet.” Course for diplomats from the Middle East and the Mediterranean: “La Chiesa cattolica e la politica internazionale della Santa Sede,” Turin (23 May 2007).
- “The Vocabulary and Grammar of Dialogue.” Conference “Il Dialogo Interculturale: una Sfida per la Pace,” Pontifical Gregorian University, Rome (3–4 May, 2007).
- “Immigrazione ed identità culturali e religiose: sfide morali.” Associazione Tologica Italiana per lo Studio della Morale, Pontificia Facoltà Teologica dell’Italia Meridionale (Sezione San Luigi), Napoli (10 April, 2007).
- “*Kalima siwâ’ baynanâ wa baynakum*: the theological language of Muslim-Christian dialogue.” Faculty of Divinity, Marmara University, Istanbul (2 April, 2007).
- “From Regensburg to the Blue Mosque: Pope Benedict’s Journey.” Faculty of Divinity, Ankara University (26 March, 2007).
- “The Language of Dialogue.” Annual Conference of the National Board of Religion Inspectors and Advisors (England and Wales), Newcastle-upon-Tyne (5–6 March, 2007).

- "The Faith of Muslims and the Christian Theological Agenda." Department of Theology, Georgetown University, Washington, DC (1 February, 2007).
- "Esperienza e Dialogo Interreligioso." Scuola per Assistenti Sociali F. Stagno d'Alcontres, Modica, Sicily (19–20 October, 2006).
- "Muslim-Christian dialogue in difficult times." Jesuits Among Muslims Meeting, Deir Mar Musa, Syria (5–10 September, 2006).
- "The Church and Salvation: where exactly is 'outside'?" *Evangelisation and Culture in a Jesuit Light*. Jesuit Jubilee Conference, Australian Catholic University, Melbourne (28–30 July, 2006).
- "God's Word to the World: Jesus and the Qur'ān; Incarnation and Recitation." Adelaide College of Divinity Annual Lecture, Adelaide, South Australia (13 July, 2006).
- "Pope Paul's VI's "map" of the Church in dialogue: are we still following it?" Colloque «Le dialogue possible: Paul VI et les cultures contemporaines» UNESCO Headquarters, Paris, 13 décembre 2005.
- "God's Word to the World: Jesus and the Qur'ān; Incarnation and Recitation." Keynote address, Fifth Leuven Encounters in Systematic Theology (LEST V), Katholieke Universiteit Leuven (2–5 November, 2005).
- "Negotiating canons: the multidimensional nature of scriptural authority" Public lecture, Central European University, Budapest (13 July, 2005).
- "Is What the Text Once Said What It Actually Means?" Conference "Towards a New Reading of the Qur'ān?" University of Notre Dame (April 2–4, 2005).
- "La possibilità di un'etica globale." Facoltà di Diritto, Università degli Studi di Bari (8 November, 2004).
- "Religious Studies and Interreligious Dialogue: Problems and Possibilities," Parliament of the World's Religions, Barcelona (8–14 July, 2004).
- "Concepts of writing and scripture in the Qur'ān and late-antique Syrian Christianity," Colloquium on the late antique roots of the Quranic concept of prophets, Institute of Advanced Study, Princeton (2–4 June, 2004).
- "The Limits of Qur'ānic Self-Referentiality," Colloquium on the Self-referentiality of the Qur'ān, Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin (26–28 May, 2004).
- "Jesus and Muhammad: The Sufficiency of Prophecy," Third *Building Bridges Seminar*, Georgetown University, Washington DC (29 March–1 April, 2004).
- "Canonization and Negotiation: In What does the Authority of the Qur'ān Consist?" International Qur'ānic Studies Conference, University of Copenhagen (5–7 March 2004).
- "A Response to Sebastian Painadath's 'Diversity of Religions, Unity in Spirituality.'" Fourth Leuven Encounters in Systematic Theology (LEST IV), Catholic University of Leuven (5–8 November 2003).
- "A Response to Gavin D'Costa's 'Vatican II and the status of other religions as salvific structures'," Irish College, Rome (9 May, 2003).
- "What kind of dialogue is possible between Islam and Christianity?" Institute for International Sociology, Gorizia (Italy) (12 September 2002).
- "The Blurred Edges of the Authoritative Text." International Colloquium "Al-Kitab": the sacredness of the text in the Islamic world. Catholic University of Leuven (29 May – 1 June, 2002)
- "The Word of God In Muslim Theology: Virtually Trinitarian?" Conference on Trinitarian Faith as Radical Monotheism, Centre Culturel "La Baume", Aix-en-Provence (2–7 April 2002).
- "Abraham: Father Or Friend?" Conference on Abraham and Pilgrimage, Gregorian University, November 2000.
- "Mary and Muhammad: Bearers of the Word." Conference on Mary in Islam, Faculty of Divinity, University of Cambridge, 14 October 2000.
- "Abraham, Scripture and Law." International Symposium on Abraham as a Symbol of Belief and Bond of Unity. Urfa and Istanbul, 13–16 April, 2000.
- "A Theology for Dialogue in Asia." Keynote address to the Fourth "Asian Journey," Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 12 January, 2000.
- "Dialogue and Nation Building in Asia: Issues of Modernization." Address to a joint conference of The Asian Journey and The Movement for a Just World. Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 15 January, 2000.
- "The Qur'ān's enigmatic *kitāb*: a new reading." Islamic Studies Seminar, University of Melbourne, 25 March, 1999.
- "Islam and the Christian Theological Agenda." Australian Catholic Theological Association, Melbourne, 4 July, 1998.
- "Unbinding the Book: a rereading of the Qur'ān's enigmatic *kitāb*." University Seminar on Arabic Studies, Columbia University, New York, 13 November, 1997.
- "Books and Writing in the Qur'ān's understanding of itself." University Seminar on Medieval Studies, Columbia University, New York, 7 October, 1997.