

**Rhonda Burnette-Bletsch, Ph.D.**

Professor of Biblical Studies

Eastern University

1300 Eagle Road

St. Davids, PA 19087

**EDUCATION**

*Duke University*, Graduate Department of Religion, Durham, NC

Exam Areas: Hebrew Bible, New Testament, Women's Studies

Ph.D., Hebrew Bible, December 1998

*Duke University*, Trinity School of Arts and Sciences, Durham, NC

B.S., Mathematics and Religion, May 1992

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

*Eastern University*, St. Davids, PA

Professor of Biblical Studies, 2014-

*Greensboro College*, Greensboro, NC

Lucy H. Robertson Professor of Religion, 2007-

Professor of Religion, 2005-2007

Associate Professor of Religion, 2001-2005

Assistant Professor of Religion, 1998-2001

Visiting Instructor of Religion, 1997-1998

*Queens College*, Charlotte, NC

Adjunct Instructor of Religion, Spring 1997

*Appalachian State University*, Boone, NC

Adjunct Instructor of Religion, 1996-1997

*Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary*, Charlotte, NC

Adjunct Instructor of Religion, Spring 1996

*Duke University*, Durham, NC

Teaching and Research Assistant for Dr. Carol Meyers, 1994-1995

Assisted in the preparation of *Women in Scripture: A Dictionary of*

*Named and Unnamed Women in the Hebrew Bible, the*

*Apocryphal/Deuterocanonical Books, and the New Testament* by

identifying and compiling appropriate entries.

*Duke University*, Durham, NC

Area Supervisor, Sepphoris Archaeological Project in Israel, 1993-1994

*Duke Divinity School*, Durham, NC

Teaching Assistant for Dr. James L. Crenshaw, 1993-1995

*Courses Taught:*

Introduction to the Old Testament; Introduction to the New Testament; Introductory and Intermediate Biblical Hebrew; Pentateuch; Writings; Psalms and Biblical Poetry; God and Human Suffering; The Bible, Social Justice, and Environmental Theology; Sex, Violence, and the Bible; Women in Judeo-Christian Traditions, Theology as Story (film/literature class), Jesus and the Gospels, Life and Letters of Paul, American Christianity, Biblical Archaeology, Christian Ethics, Introduction to World Religions, Senior Seminar for Religion Majors, First Year Seminar, Introduction to Women's Studies.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE POSITIONS**

Co-Director, Reynolds Institute of Church Leadership, Greensboro College, 2011-Faculty Affairs Committee, 2012-

Coordinator, Jean Fortner Ward Lecture Series, 2004-

Chair, Religion Department, Greensboro College, 2003-2007

Steering Committee, Academic Teaching/Biblical Studies, SBL, 2008-

Academic Council, Greensboro College, 2001-2007 & 2010-2013

Director, Women's Studies Program, Greensboro College, 2001-2005

Curriculum and Instruction Committee, 2000-2001 & 2008-2010

## **RESEARCH INTERESTS**

- The historical and cultural background of biblical texts.
- Reception of biblical traditions in diverse theological contexts.
- Reception of biblical traditions in art, literature, and film.
- Biblical ethics and social justice
- Biblical hermeneutics.

## **BOOKS**

*Studying the Old Testament: A Companion*. (Nashville, TN: Abingdon Press, 2007).

*Biblical Reception in Film: A Handbook*. (Berlin: De Gruyter Press, forthcoming).

*The Bible in Focus*. [prospectus – a study guide for churches using *The Bible* miniseries].

## EDITORIAL POSITIONS

Co-Managing Editor, *Journal of the Bible and Its Reception*. Berlin: de Gruyter, 2012-present.

General Editor (Hebrew Bible), *Biblical Odyssey Website*. Society of Biblical Literature, 2012-present.

Film Editor, *Encyclopedia of the Bible and Its Reception*. Ed. Hermann Spieckermann, *et al.* Berlin: de Gruyter, 2010-present [projected 30 volumes].

## ARTICLES/CHAPTERS/ENTRIES

“The Celluloid Bible: A Consideration of Filmic Exegesis,” *Journal of the Bible and Its Reception* 1/1 (forthcoming).

“Flickering Shadows and *The Shadow of Nazareth*,” In *Silent Jesus Films*. Ed. David Shepherd. (London: Routledge, forthcoming).

“The Reception of Job in Film,” In *The Reception of Job: A Handbook*. Ed. Leong Seow. (Berlin: de Gruyter, forthcoming).

“The Bible, Traditional Storytelling, and the Movies,” In *Biblical Reception in Folklore: A Handbook*. Ed. Eric Ziolkowski. (Berlin: de Gruyter, forthcoming).

“Speaking as ‘Any Foolish Woman’ -- Job’s Wife in the History of Reception.” In *Celebrate Her for the Fruit of Her Hands: Studies in Honor of Carol L. Meyers*. Eds. Charles E. Carter and Karla G. Bohmbach. (Winona Lake, IN: Eisenbrauns, forthcoming).

“2001: A Space Odyssey,” In *Bible and Cinema: 50 Key Films*. Ed. Adele Reinhartz. (NY: Routledge Press, 2012).

“Blade Runner,” In *Bible and Cinema: 50 Key Films*. Ed. Adele Reinhartz. (NY: Routledge Press, 2012).

“The Reception of Genesis in Pseudo-Philo’s *Liber Antiquitatum Biblicarum*.” In *The Book of Genesis: Composition and Reception*. Eds. Craig A. Evans, *et al.* (Vetus Testamentum Supplements. Leiden/Boston: Brill, 2012).

Contributor to the *Encyclopedia of the Bible and Its Reception*. Ed. Hermann Spieckermann, *et al.* Berlin: de Gruyter, 2010-forthcoming. [Film Entries on

"Canaanites," "Circumcision," "Cleric and Clergy," "Darwin, Charles," "David," "David and Goliath Story," "Death and Dying," "Decapitation," "Documentary Films," "Dog," "Economics and the Bible," "Eisenstein, Sergei," "Electronic Resources and the Bible," "Emotions," "En-dor, Medium of," "Esau," "Esther," "Evolutionary Theory and the Bible," "Fate," "Fertility," "Fiery Furnace," "Flesh," "Free Will," "Freedom," "Folkloric Reception of the Bible," "Gestures," "God," "Grotesque (nonbiblical films)," "Human Rights"].

"The Passover Ritual: From Biblical Origin to Contemporary Practice." *Abingdon's Adult Bible Study Illustrated* (2009).

"Why Christians Should Care about Biblical Law: Treating the Holiness Code in Leviticus 17-27 as a Test Case." *Abingdon's Adult Bible Study Illustrated* (2009).

Contributer to *Jewish Women: A Comprehensive Historical Encyclopedia*. Eds. Paula Hyman and Dalia Ofer. Philadelphia/New York: Jewish Publication Society, 2006. [Entries on "Hamutal" and "Maacah."]

Contributer to *Women in Scripture: A Dictionary of Named and Unnamed Women in the Bible, Apocryphal/Deuterocanonical Books, and the New Testament*. Ed. Carol L. Meyers, et al. Boston/New York: Houghton Mifflin, 2000. [Entries on "Abigail 2," "Abijah 2/Abi," "Daughters of Israel, Potential Wives for Benjamin," "Hamutal," "Hephzibah 1," "Jecoliah," "Jedidah," "Jehoaddin/ Jehoaddan," "Jerusha," "Maacah 4," "Menstruating Women," "Mistress," "Mother of the Slandered Bride," "Nehushtah," "Neighbor's Wife," "Servant Girl of En Rogel," "Wife and Servant of Naaman," "Wife of Gilead," "Women Accused of Unfaithfulness," "Woman at Bahurim," "Woman Being Divorced," "Woman Who Mutilates a Man's Genitals," "Women a Priest Can and Cannot Bury," "Women a Priest Can and Cannot Marry," "Women after Childbirth," "Women and Bodily Emissions;" and "Zeruah."]

"The Hands of a Woman: Reading Pseudo-Philo 31.3-9." *Journal for the Study of the Pseudepigrapha* 17 (1998), 53-64.

## BOOK/FILM REVIEWS

Peter Thatcher Lanfer. *Remembering Eden: The Reception History of Genesis 3:22-24*. *H-Net Reviews in the Humanities and Social Sciences* (2013): <https://www.h-net.org/reviews/showpdf.php?id=37000>.

*Barabbas* (dir. Roger Young, 2013). *Religious Studies Review* (forthcoming).

*The Bible* (prod. Mark Burnett/Roma Downey, 2013). *Religious Studies Review* (forthcoming).

Christopher J. H. Wright. *God's People in God's Land: Family, Land, and Property in the Old Testament*. The Journal of Law and Religion 17/1-2 (2002): 331-333.

Nanette Stahl. *Law and Liminality in the Bible*. The Journal of Law and Religion 17/1-2 (2002): 329-330.

Ilona Rashkow. *Taboo or Not Taboo: Sexuality and Family in the Hebrew Bible*. The Journal of Religion 81/4 (October 2001): 633-635.

Gail B. Griffin. *Calling: Essays on Teaching in the Mother Tongue*. Duke Journal of Gender, Law, & Policy 4/1 (Spring 1997): 213-216.

Frances A. Maher and Mary Kay Thompson Tetreault. *The Feminist Classroom: An Inside Look at How Professors and Students Are Transforming Higher Education for a Diverse Society*. Duke Journal of Gender, Law, & Policy 4/1 (Spring 1997): 213-216.

Jean Fox O'Barr. *Feminism in Action: Building Institutions and Community Through Women's Studies*. Duke Journal of Gender, Law, & Policy 4/1 (Spring 1997): 213-216.

## PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS

"Biblical Imagery and Intertexts in the Films of Sergei Eisenstein," Inaugural Conference for the *Journal of Biblical Reception*, Princeton, NJ, 2013.

"Religious Symbolism and Anti-Religious Propaganda in the Films of Sergei Eisenstein," Bible and Film Section, Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting, San Francisco, 2011.

"Isaac Meets Iphigenia: Exploring Reading Strategies for Genesis 22." Academic Teaching and Biblical Studies Section. Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting, Boston, 2008.

"From Oz to Kansas: Dorothy's Perspective on the Daily Realities of Life at a Small 'Teaching' College." Wabash Series for Graduate Student Education, Duke University, 2006.

"Institutional Context and Opportunities for Interdisciplinarity in Women's Studies." Women's Studies Research Fellows Series, Duke University, 2003.

"Social Change and Women's Studies at Greensboro College." Co-Presented with Ann Walter-Fromson and Nancy McElveen. Southeastern Women's Studies Association Regional Meeting, 2002.

“A Feminist Critique of Christian Parenting Literature.” Co-presented with Ann Walter-Fromson and Lisa Gunther-Lavergne. Ethics Across the Curriculum Series, Greensboro College, 2002.

“Kinship Structures in Agrarian Israel.” Poster Session. Society of Biblical Literature/American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, Denver, 2001.

“Designing and Writing a Successful NEH Focus Grant Proposal.” Co-presented with Nancy McElveen. NEH Workshop, Appalachian State University, 2001.

“The Bible as a Primary Source for Christian Ethics,” Ethics Across the Curriculum Series, Greensboro College, 1999.

### **(SELECTED) ECCLESIAL PRESENTATIONS/SEMINARS**

“The Bible in the Arts” St. Francis Forum, St. Francis Episcopal Church, Greensboro, NC, Winter 2013.

“*The Bible* in Focus,” Adult Sunday School Series, Christ United Methodist Church, Greensboro, NC, Spring 2013.

“The Bible for Thinking Christians,” Lay Academy Series, Westminster Presbyterian Church, Greensboro, NC, Summer 2012.

“Women, the Bible, and Christian Theology,” Lay Academy Series, Reynolds Institute for Church Leadership, Greensboro, NC, Spring 2012.

“Women and Christian Theology,” Women’s Retreat Series, Good Shepherd Episcopal Church, Ashboro, NC, Spring 2012.

“When the Bible is Used as a Weapon,” Adult Sunday School Series, Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, Greensboro, NC Fall 2011.

“He Said/She Said: Hard Sayings of the Bible,” Summer Series taught with Rev. John H. Bletsch) Christ United Methodist Church, Greensboro, NC, Summer 2011.

“Biblical Hebrew: Do You Love the Bible Enough to Learn How to Read It?” Lay Academy Series, Tabernacle United Methodist Church, Greensboro, NC, Spring 2011.

“The Existential Angst of Ecclesiastes in Contemporary Cinema,” Adult Sunday School Series, Christ United Methodist Church, Greensboro, NC, Spring 2011.

“A Thinking Person’s Guide to Biblical Truth.” Lay Academy Series, Christ United Methodist Church, Greensboro, NC, Spring 2009.

“Teaching the Old Testament in the Church.” Board of Ministers Meeting, Greensboro College, Fall 2008.

“What Is the Bible and What Should We Do with It?” Presentation, Christ United Methodist Church, Greensboro, NC, 2008.

“*Tender Mercies*: Biblical Themes in Contemporary Films.” Presentation, Christ United Methodist Church, Greensboro, NC, 2006.

“Reading Prophetic Literature for All It’s Worth.” Presentation, Christ United Methodist Church, Greensboro, NC, 2006.

“The Bible as a Problematic Resource for Women’s Spirituality.” Women’s Spirituality Conference, Christ United Methodist Church, Greensboro, NC, 2005.

“Wrestling with God in the Film *Bruce Almighty*: A Modern Jobian Tale.” Presentation, Christ United Methodist Church, Greensboro, NC, 2005.

“Reclaiming the Bible for ‘Uppity Women.’” Presentation, First Presbyterian Church, Greensboro, NC, 2004.

“Christianity’s Oft Neglected Jewish Heritage.” Ardmore United Methodist Church, Winston Salem, NC, 2003.

“Preaching from The Prophet Isaiah.” United Methodist Jurisdictional Clergy Meeting, Greensboro, NC, 2001.

Biblical Hebrew Seminar, Hickory Grove United Methodist Church, Charlotte, NC, 1997-1998.

## **PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES**

Society of Biblical Literature, 1993-

American Academy of Religion, 1993-

National Women’s Studies Association, 2001-2005

Southeastern Women’s Studies Association, 2001-2005

Duke Graduate and Professional Women’s Network, 1994-1997

## **FELLOWSHIPS/GRANTS**

CETL Innovative Teaching Grant, Greensboro College, 2011  
Sabbatical Leave, Greensboro College, 2008  
Lucy H. Robertson Chair of Religion, Greensboro College, 2007-  
CETL Innovative Teaching Grant, Greensboro College, 2006-2007  
Kathleen Price and Joseph M. Bryan Grant for Professional Development,  
Greensboro College, 2002 & 2005  
Eleanor and Claude George Faculty Development Grant, Greensboro College, 2004  
Focus Grant for Faculty Development in Women's Studies (co-writer), National  
Endowment for the Humanities, 2001.  
Kearns Graduate Fellowship, Duke University, 1992-1996  
Travel Research Grant, ASOR Endowment, 1993

**LANGUAGES** Reading knowledge of Biblical Hebrew, Aramaic, Koine Greek,  
Latin, French, and German.

**REFERENCES (more available upon request)**

Dr. John Kutsko  
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The Luce Center  
825 Houston Mill Rd.  
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Lafayette College  
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Dr. Paul Leslie  
Vice President of Academic Affairs



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