

# Thomas Cattoi

## Curriculum Vitae

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- Associate Professor in Christology and Cultures and Dwan Family Chair of Inter-religious Dialogue, Jesuit School of Theology at Santa Clara University (formerly Jesuit School of Theology at Berkeley)/Graduate Theological Union
- Licensed Psychotherapist in the State of California (LMFT 106457)

### *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
- MSc in Economics and Philosophy, London School of Economics (LSE), 1996
- BA (Hons.) in Economics and Philosophy (PPE), Oxford University, 1995

### *Books*

- *Theologies of the Sacred Image in Theodore the Studite and Bokar Rinpoche* (Piscataway, N.J.: Gorgias Press), forthcoming
- *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)
- *Divine Contingency: Theologies of Divine Embodiment in Maximus the Confessor and Tsong kha pa* (Piscataway, N.J.: Gorgias Press, 2009)

### *Edited volumes*

- With David Odorisio, *Depth Psychology and Mysticism* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2018)
- With Christopher Moreman, *Death, Dying and Mysticism* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2015)
- *Many Tongues, One Spirit: Local Ecclesiologies in Dialogue* (Solstice Press, 2013)

- With June McDaniel, *Perceiving the Divine Through the Human Body: Mystical Sensuality* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2011)

### 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)
- "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 *Hexameron*", 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 *Antirrhети*", 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 Eutyhianos*, 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)

- “The Relevance of Gregory of Nyssa’s *Ad Ablabium* for Catholic-Orthodox Ecumenical Dialogue on the Trinity and the Church”, Ch. 11 (pp. 183-198) 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)
- “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)
- “*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)
- “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
- “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, forthcoming)
- “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.), *A New Mystagogia: Lessons from Doing Contextual Theology* (New York, Crossroads, forthcoming)
- “The Deified Cosmos: Maximus 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., 2018, forthcoming)

- “*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., 2018, forthcoming)
- “Rescuing Alexandria: Depth Psychology and the Return of Allegorical Exegesis”, in *Depth Psychology and Mysticism* (Palgrave, 2018),
- “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” and “Metanoia” in David Leeming (ed.), *Encyclopedia of Psychology and Religion* (New York: Springer, 2019, forthcoming)
- “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), forthcoming

### ***Work in progress***

- Completing the project *Theologies of the Sacred Image in Theodore the Studite and Bokar Rinpoche*
- An edited volume on Eastern Christianity and Interreligious Dialogue for the Orthodox Christianity and Contemporary Thought series of Fordham University Press (with Brandon Gallaher, University of Exeter)
- “*Laudato Si'* and a Broader Vision of Reality: Theologies of Purified Vision in Theodore the Studite and Bokar Rinpoche,” *Journal of Interreligious Studies*
- “The Wisdom of the Desert: Evagrius Pontikos and Transpersonal Psychology”, *Journal of Transpersonal Studies*

### ***Future Projects***

A commentary to Tsong kha pa’s *Legs bshad snying po* (*The Essence of True Eloquence*) from a Christian perspective

### ***Languages***

- ◆ Italian (native speaker), English, German, French, Russian, Lithuanian, Latin, Classical Greek
- ◆ Working knowledge of Hebrew, Sanskrit, Church Slavonic
- ◆ Some Polish 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, Vaiṣṇavite 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.
- *The Doctrine 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 and Spring 2019 online). 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)
- *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.
- *Patristics I* (Fall 2007), and as *Patristic Theology* (Fall 2010, Spring 2015, Spring 2017). 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, Vaiṣṇavite 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.
- *Theology after 1965* (Spring 2010, Spring 2017). 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* (Spring 2012, Fall 2014 online). 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)
- *Trinitarian Theology* (Fall 2015, Fall 2018). A historical overview of the development of Trinitarian theology over the centuries.
- *Christianity and the Dharma Religions* (Fall 2016). An introduction to Hindu-Christian dialogue.
- *History and Culture Doctoral Seminar* (Spring 2019). An introduction to themes and methods in the historical and cultural study of religion.

### ***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.

(teaching record before 2006 available on request)

### ***JST/GTU Committee work***

- Member of the Core Doctoral Faculty of the Graduate Theological Union (as of 2009)
- 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, ongoing)
- 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); from Fall 2018, point person for the MA, ThM and MTS programs
- 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 Theology and Ethics Department, GTU (2018-2020)
- Director of the MTS and ThM programs (2018-9)

***Other academic activities***

- Co-editor of the journal *Buddhist-Christian Studies* (from the 2015 issue); editing the special 2018 issue devoted to Ippolito Desideri's journey to Tibet
- Visiting Lecturer at Sun Yat Sen University (Guang Zhou, China), May-June 2008 (course on "Origen and Origenism"); Fudan University (Shanghai, 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" (as of September 2011) on "issues in the world church"; occasional contributor (in translation) to the Indian magazine *Ezhuth* (as of Summer 2016)
- Visiting Lecturer, Catholic University of Ukraine, Lviv (March 24<sup>th</sup>-April 7<sup>th</sup> 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 22<sup>nd</sup> and July 1<sup>st</sup>, 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 4<sup>th</sup> —5<sup>th</sup>, 2016
- Co-chair of new study group at the European Academy of Religion on Eastern Christianity and interreligious dialogue (2017- ongoing)
- Member of an interreligious study group at the European Academy of Religion chaired by Prof. Aguilar (St. Andrew's University, Scotland) (2018-ongoing)

***Work as Reviewer***

- Regular reviewer for *Theological Studies* and *Reviews in Religion and Theology* (German/French/Italian books)
- Member of the Board of Scholars and regular reviewer for the *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*

(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 6<sup>th</sup>, 2007, Yamshon Alumni Center, California State University, Sacramento.
- “Cristina Campo e il Concilio Vaticano II”. November 8<sup>th</sup>, 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 28<sup>th</sup>, 2008
- “The empty cosmos: new frontiers of Christian-Buddhist dialogue”, University of Great Falls, April 4<sup>th</sup>, 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 15<sup>th</sup>, 2008
- “Gregory of Nyssa’s notion of spiritual progress and Buddhist understandings of *nirvana*”, Lecture at Zhejiang University, Hangzhou, China, March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2010
- “Reflections on Pope Benedict’s *Jesus of Nazareth*, Vol. 2”, Panel at the Dominican School of Philosophy and Theology, Berkeley, April 20<sup>th</sup> 2011
- “Issues in Contemporary Christology”, Saint Monica Peace Centre, Moraga, October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2011
- “Reflections on the Final Volume of Pope Benedict’s *Jesus of Nazareth*”, Panel at the Dominican School of Philosophy and Theology, Berkeley, December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2012
- “Religious Responses to Pluralism”, International Symposium on Religion and Society, Loyola University at Trivandrum (Kerala, India), January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2013
- “Athanasios of Alexandria and the *Bhagavad Gita* on the question of divine transcendence and immanence”, Sankaracharya Hindu University at Kalady (Kerala, India), January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2013
- Panelist for “Penance Across Traditions”, Spirituality Day, Pacific Lutheran School of Theology, February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2013
- Panelist for “Contextual Salvation(s)?”, Church Divinity School of the Pacific, March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2013
- Seminar on Evagrios Pontikos for the doctoral program in East-West Psychology, California Institute of Integral Studies, March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2013
- Lecture on “Vatican II and Interreligious Dialogue”, Vatican II Lecture Series, November 13<sup>th</sup>, 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 4<sup>th</sup>, 2015, Los Altos; Meeting of Diocesan workers from the Western United States, February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 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 6<sup>th</sup>, 2016



*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 Evagrius 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”, 15<sup>th</sup> 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 4<sup>th</sup>, 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, 0<sup>th</sup> conference (sic) of the European Academy of Religion, June 2017 (revised version to be 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
- “Anger and the Emotions in the Evagrian School of Spirituality and the Mahāyāna Buddhist Tradition,” *Fondazione Bruno Kessler*, Trento, July 11<sup>th</sup>, 2018
- Speaker on a book presentation panel for *Depth Psychology and Mysticism*, Pacifica Graduate Institute, Santa Barbara, Nov. 10<sup>th</sup>, 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
- Panelist on “Buddhist and Christian Approaches to the Afterlife”, Sankt Ottilien (Germany), meeting of the European Network of Buddhist-Christian Studies, (June 2019, forthcoming)

### ***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 31<sup>st</sup>/July 31<sup>st</sup> 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
- Catholic Theological Society of America
- European Academy of Religion

### ***Personal Information***

- Married, two sons
- Dual Italian and US citizenship (as of 12/10/2015)

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