

THEODORE J. LEWIS
CURRICULUM VITAE (as of July 2020)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

Blum-Iwry Professor of Near Eastern Studies 2002-Present
(Hebrew Bible and Northwest Semitics)
Department of Near Eastern Studies

Chair, Department of Near Eastern Studies 2006-2012

GUGGENHEIM FELLOW 2009-2010

UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

Professor of Hebrew Bible, Department of Religion 2000-2002
Associate Professor (Tenured) 1992-1999
Assistant Professor 1987-1992

EMORY UNIVERSITY

Adjunct Professor, Graduate Division of Religion 1987-2002

HARVARD UNIVERSITY

Visiting Lecturer of Hebrew Bible 1986-1987
Joint Appointment - Department of Near Eastern
Languages & Civilizations, Harvard Divinity School
Teaching Fellow 1983-1985

EDUCATION

Ph.D. 1986 Harvard University, Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations
 1980 Hebrew University in Jerusalem, Visiting year as an ITT International Fellow
M.A. 1979 University of Wisconsin—Madison, Hebrew and Semitic Studies
B.A. 1978 University of Wisconsin—Madison, Hebrew and Semitic Studies

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS

- *The Origin and Character of God: Ancient Israelite Religion through the Lens of Divinity* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2020)
- *Cults of the Dead in Ancient Israel and Ugarit*. Harvard Semitic Monograph #39. Atlanta: Scholars Press, 1989.
- Co-author of *Ugaritic Narrative Poetry* with M. Smith, S. Parker, E. Greenstein, D. Marcus. *Society of Biblical Literature Writings From the Ancient World* series, Volume 9. Atlanta: Scholars Press, 1997.

- General Editor, *Writings from the Ancient World* (2001-present)
 - 23 WAW volumes produced under my general editorship:
 - Jim Lindenberger (ed. K. Richards), *Hebrew and Aramaic Letters* (2nd edition; 2003)
 - Martti Nissinen, C.L. Seow, and R. Ritner (ed. P. Machinist), *Prophets and Prophecy in the Ancient Near East* (2003)

- Herman L. J. Vanstiphout (ed. J. Cooper), *Epics of Sumerian Kings: The Matter of Aratta* (2003)
 - Jean-Jacques Glassner (ed. B. Foster), *Mesopotamian Chronicles* (2004)
 - Jim Allen (ed. P. Der Manuelian), *Ancient Egyptian Pyramid Texts* (2005)
 - Nigel Strudwick (ed. R. Leprohon), *Texts from the Pyramid Age* (2005)
 - Elizabeth Froom (ed. J. Baines), *Biographical Texts from Ramessid Egypt* (2007)
 - Harry Hoffner, (ed. G. Beckman), *Letters from the Hittite Kingdom* (2009)
 - Robert Ritner (ed. E. Wente), *The Libyan Anarchy: Inscriptions from Egypt's Third Intermediate Period* (2009)
 - Maynard Maidman, (ed. A. Guinan) *Nuzi Texts and Their Uses as Historical Evidence* (2010)
 - Gary Beckman, Trevor Bryce and Eric Cline (ed. B. J. Collins), *The Ahhiyawa Texts* (2011)
 - Annick Payne (ed. H. C. Melchert), *Iron Age Hieroglyphic Luwian Inscriptions* (2012)
 - Ronald Leprohon (ed. D. Doxey), *The Great Name: Ancient Egyptian Royal Titulary* (2013)
 - Yoram Cohen (ed. A. George), *Wisdom from the Late Bronze Age* (2013)
 - Jared L. Miller (ed. M. Giorgieri), *Royal Hittite Instructions and Related Administrative Texts* (2013)
 - Shalom E. Holtz (ed. C. Wunsch) *Neo-Babylonian Trial Records* (2014)
 - JoAnn Scurlock (ed. M. Stol), *Sourcebook for Ancient Mesopotamian Medicine* (2014)
 - Jim Allen (ed. P. Der Manuelian), *Ancient Egyptian Pyramid Texts*, 2nd edition (2015)
 - Tzvi Abusch (ed. M. Worthington), *The Witchcraft Series Maqlû* (2015)
 - John Darnell and Colleen Darnell (ed. A. Spalinger), *The Ancient Egyptian Netherworld Books* (2018)
 - Michele Cammarosano (ed. T. Van denHout, *Hittite Local Cults* (2018)
 - Martti Nissinen, C.L. Seow, R. Ritner and H. C. Melchart (ed. P. Machinist), *Prophets and Prophecy in the Ancient Near East*. Second enlarged edition (2019)
 - Cécile Michel, *Women in Aššur and Kaneš from the Private Archives of Assyrian Merchants of the Early 2nd Millennium BCE* (in press)
- An additional 23 WAW volumes are in preparation [see itemized list below under Professional Service]
- Editor, *Biblical and Other Studies*. *Hebrew Annual Review* 13 (1991) Ohio State University
 - Editor, *Biblical and Other Studies*. *Hebrew Annual Review* 14 (1994) Ohio State University
 - Editor of Dennis Pardee's *Ritual and Cult at Ugarit, Writings From the Ancient World* (Atlanta: Society of Biblical Literature, 2002)
 - Co-editor (with G. Beckman), *Text, Artifact, and Image: Revealing Ancient Israelite Religion* Brown Judaic Studies (Atlanta: Society of Biblical Literature, 2006)

BOOK MANUSCRIPT IN PREPARATION

- *Archaic Aramaic* [SBL Press]

ARTICLES IN JOURNALS AND EDITED VOLUMES

- "The Songs of Hannah and Deborah: HDL-II," *Journal of Biblical Literature* 104 (1985) 105-108.

- “Notes on Some Problems in the Aramaic Text of The Hadd-Yith’i Bilingual,” with D.M.Gropp, *Bulletin of the American Schools of Oriental Research* 259 (1985) 45-61.
- “Death Cult Imagery in Isaiah 57,” *Hebrew Annual Review* 11 (1987) 267-284.
- “The Ancestral Estate (*nahalat ’elohim*) in 2 Samuel 14:16,” *Journal of Biblical Literature* 110 (1991) 597-612.
- Editorial Appendix (with S.A. Meier) to S. Goldman, “Two American Hebrew Orations, 1799 and 1800,” *Hebrew Annual Review* 13 (1991) 42-44.
- Six major entries [“Ancestor Worship,” “Banqueting Hall/House (Marzeah),” “Beelzebul,” “Belial,” “Dead, Abode of the,” “Mot”] in *The Anchor Bible Dictionary*; ed. D.N. Freedman, et al. (New York: Doubleday, 1992) Vol. I 240-242, 581-582, 638-640, 654-656; Vol II 101-105; Vol IV 922-924.
- Three minor entries [“Amon (deity),” “Amon (person),” “Baal-Berith”] in *The Anchor Bible Dictionary*, ed. D.N. Freedman, et al. (New York: Doubleday, 1992) Vol. I 197-199; 550-551.
- “Israel, Religion of,” *The Oxford Companion to the Bible*, ed. B.M. Metzger and M.D. Coogan (New York: Oxford University Press, 1993) 332-336.
- “The Textual History of the Song of Hannah: 1 Samuel II 1-10,” *Vetus Testamentum* 44 (1994) 18-46.
- Three entries [“The Dead (in the Ancient Near East),” “First Born of Death,” “Teraphim”] in *Dictionary of Deities and Demons in the Bible*, ed. K. van der Toorn, B. Becking, P.W. van der Horst (Leiden: E.J. Brill, 1995) 421-438, 627-634, 1588-1601.
- Same three entries in the second extensively revised edition: (Leiden: E. J. Brill, 1999) 223-231; 332-335, 844-850.
- “Teraphim” with K. van der Toorn, *Theologisches Wörterbuch zum Alten Testament* Volume 8, ed. H. -J. Fabry and H. Ringgren (Stuttgart: Kohlhammer Verlag 1995) 765-778.
- “CT 13.33-34 and Ezekiel 32: Lion-Dragon Myths,” *Journal of the American Oriental Society* 116 (1996) 28-47.
- “The Identity and Function of the Deity El/Baal Berith” [1994 Mitchell Dahood Lecture] *Journal of Biblical Literature* 115 (1996) 401-423.
- “The Disappearance of the Goddess Anat. The 1995 West Semitic Research Project on Ugaritic Epigraphy,” *Biblical Archaeologist* 59.2 (1996) 115-121 [cover article]
- “Toward a Literary Translation of the Rapiuma Texts” in *Ugarit: Religion and Culture. Proceedings of the International Colloquium on Ugarit, religion and culture, Edinburgh, July 1994. Essays presented in honour of John C. L. Gibson*. Ugaritisch-Biblische Literatur 12, ed. N. Wyatt, W.G.E. Watson, and J.B. Lloyd (Münster: Ugarit-Verlag, 1996) 115-149.
- Review Article of Rainer Albertz, *A History of Israelite Religion in the Old Testament Period. Vol 1. From the Beginnings to the End of the Monarchy. Vol. 2 From the Exile to the Maccabees*, in *Interpretation* 51 (1997) 73-77.
- “Divine Images and Aniconism in Ancient Israel,” *Journal of the American Oriental Society* 118 (1998) 36-53.
- “The Current State of Ugaritic Studies and Technology,” with S. Wiggins, *Handbook of Ugaritic Studies*. Handbuch der Orientalistik; ed. N. Wyatt, W. G. E. Watson (Leiden: Brill, 1999) 734-746.
- “Hebrew, Biblical” in *Eerdmans Dictionary of the Bible*, ed. David N. Freedman (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2000) 564-567.
- “How Far Can Texts Take Us? Evaluating Textual Sources for Reconstructing Ancient Israelite Beliefs about the Dead,” in *Sacred Time, Sacred Space: Archaeology and the Religion of Israel*, ed. B.M. Gittlen (Eisenbrauns: Winona Lake, 2002) 169-217.

- “The ‘Babel-Bibel’ Controversy,” *Near Eastern Archaeology* 65:1 (2002) 14.
- “Syro-Palestinian Iconography and Divine Images,” in *Cult Image and Divine Representation in the Ancient Near East*, ed. N. Walls (Atlanta: ASOR, 2005) 69-107.
- “The Mysterious Disappearance of Zerubbabel,” *Seeking Out the Wisdom of the Ancients: Essays Offered to Honor Michael V. Fox on the Occasion of His Sixty-Fifth Birthday*, ed. R. L. Troxel, K. G. Friebel and D. R. Magary (Winona Lake, IN: Eisenbrauns, 2005) 301-314.
- Evaluating William Foxwell Albright’s *Archaeology and the Religion of Israel*—An Introductory Essay to the republication of this volume (Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2006) xiii-xlix.
- “Covenant and Blood Rituals: Understanding Exodus 24:3-8 Against its Ancient Near Eastern Backdrop” in *Confronting the Past: Archaeological and Historical Essays on Ancient Israel in Honor of William G. Dever*, ed. S. Gitin, J.E. Wright, and J.P. Dessel (Winona Lake, IN: Eisenbrauns, 2006) 341-350.
- “Teraphim,” with K. van der Toorn, *Theological Dictionary of the Old Testament* Vol XV, ed. G. J. Botterweck, H. Ringgren and H. -J. Fabry (Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2006) 777-789.
- “Death,” *The New Interpreter’s Dictionary of the Bible. Vol. 2*, ed. K. Sakenfeld et al. (Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2007), 66-69.
- “Underworld Deities,” *The New Interpreter’s Dictionary of the Bible. Vol. 2*, ed. K. Sakenfeld et al. (Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2007), 85-89.
- “‘You Have Heard What the Kings of Assyria Have Done’: Disarmament Passages vis-à-vis Assyrian Rhetoric of Intimidation.” Chapter 5 in *Isaiah’s Vision of Peace in Biblical and Modern International Relations: Swords into Plowshares*, ed. Raymond Cohen and Raymond Westbrook (New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2008), 75-100 [reprinted 2016]
- “Family, Household, and Local Religion at Late Bronze Age Ugarit” in *Household and Family Religion in Antiquity*, ed. J. Bodel and S. Olyan (Oxford: Blackwell Publishing, 2008) 60-88.
- “Who Led the Scapegoat in Leviticus 16:21?” with Raymond Westbrook, *Journal of Biblical Literature* 127.3 (2008) 417-422; republished in *Law from the Tigris to the Tiber: The Writings of Raymond Westbrook, Volume 2: Cuneiform and Biblical Sources*, ed. B. Wells and R. Magdalene (Winona Lake, IN: Eisenbrauns, 2009) 379-385.
- “Albright, William Foxwell” in *Encyclopedia of the Bible and Its Reception, Vol. 1*, ed. H. J. Klauck et al.; (Berlin: W. de Gruyter, 2009) 712-713. Electronic edition = ID:10.1515/EBR.albrightwilliamfoxwell.
- “‘Athtartu’s Incantations and the Use of Divine Names as Weapons,” *Journal of Near Eastern Studies* 70.2 (2011) 207-227.
- “Job 19 in the Light of the Ketef Hinnom Inscriptions and Amulets” in *Puzzling Out the Past: Studies in Northwest Semitic Languages and Literatures in Honor of Bruce Zuckerman* ed. Marilyn Lundberg, Steven Fine and Wayne T. Pitard (Leiden: E. J. Brill; 2012) 99-113, 319-320 (color plates).
- “The Sha’tiqatu Narrative from the Ugaritic Story about the Healing of King Kirta,” *Journal of Ancient Near Eastern Religions* 13 (2013) 188-211.
- “Divine Fire in Deuteronomy 33:2,” *Journal of Biblical Literature* 132.4 (2013): 791-803.
- “Feasts for the Dead and Ancestor Veneration in Levantine Traditions” in *In Remembrance of Me: Feasting with the Dead in the Ancient Middle East*, ed. V. R. Herrmann and J. D. Schloen (Chicago: Oriental Institute Museum Publications, University of Chicago, 2014) 69-74.
- “The Identity and Function of Ugaritic Sha’tiqatu: A Divinely Made Apotropaic Figure,” *Journal of Ancient Near Eastern Religions* 14 (2014) 1-28.

- “Egyptian Divinity in the Divine Speech in Job 38:36,” in *Joyful in Thebes: Egyptological Studies in Honor of Betsy M. Bryan*, ed. Richard Jasnow and Kathlyn M. Cooney, (Atlanta: Lockwood Press, 2015) 343-356.
- “Art and Iconography: Representing Yahwistic Divinity” in *The Wiley Blackwell Companion to Ancient Israel*, ed. Susan Niditch (Wiley Blackwell Companions to Religion) West Sussex, UK: John Wiley & Sons Ltd, 2016) 510-533.
- “Piercing God’s Name: A Mythological Subtext of Deicide Underlying Blasphemy in Leviticus 24,” in *Le-ma’an Ziony: Essays in Honor of Ziony Zevit*, ed. Frederick E. Greenspahn and Gary A. Rendsburg (Eugene, OR: Wipf & Stock, 2017) 213-238.
- “Bar-Rakib’s Legitimation and The Problem of a Missing Corpse: The End of the Panamuwa Inscription in Light of the Katumuwa Inscription” *ARAM Periodical* 31.2 (2019) 349-374.
- “Ugaritic ‘Athtartu Šadi, Food Production and Textiles: More Data for Reassessing the Biblical Portrayal of ‘Aštar in Context” in *Mighty Baal: Essays in Honor of Mark S. Smith*, ed. Stephen C. Russell and Esther J. Hamori (Harvard Semitic Studies. Leiden: E. J. Brill, 2020) 138-159.
- “A Holy Warrior at Kuntillet ‘Ajrud? Kuntillet ‘Ajrud Plaster Inscription 4.2” in *The Bible in the Ancient Near East: Essays in Honor of P. Kyle McCarter*, edited by Christopher Rollston et al. (Atlanta: SBL Press, 2020) (in press)
- “God (ʾIlu) and King in RS 2.002 [KTU 1.23]” in “*Like ʾIlu Are You Wise*”: *Studies in Northwest Semitic Languages and Literatures in Honor of Dennis G. Pardee*, edited by H. H. Hardy II, Joseph Lam, and Eric D. Reymond, (Chicago: Oriental Institute, University of Chicago) (in press)
- “Gift Giving, Generosity and the Etymology of Manna” in *One Who Loves Knowledge: Studies in Honor of Richard Jasnow* (in press, Lockwood Press)
- “Kings, Gods, Politics and People: A Study of Three Sam’alian Kings and Their Portrayals of Divinity,” *fc.* in a secret Festschrift (Harvard Semitic Studies. Leiden: E. J. Brill)

SELECTED BOOK REVIEWS

- Review of Rainer Albertz and Rüdiger Schmitt, *Family and Household Religion in Ancient Israel and the Levant* in *Near Eastern Archaeology* 77.2 (2014) 154-156.
- Review of Jeffrey H. Tigay, *You Shall Have No Other Gods: Israelite Religion in the Light of Hebrew Inscriptions* in *Maarav* 9 (2002) 113-118.
- Review of Monika Bernett and Othmar Keel, *Mond, Stier, und Kult am Stadttor: Die Stele von Betsaida (et-Tell)* in *Journal of the American Oriental Society* 120.3 (2000) 489-490.
- Review of Allan R. Petersen, *The Royal God: Enthronement Festivals in Ancient Israel and Ugarit* in *Bulletin of the American Schools of Oriental Research* 317 (2000) 84-85.
- Review of Marguerite Yon, *La cité d’Ougarit sur le tell de Ras Shamra* in *Near Eastern Archaeology* 62.2 (1999) 131-132.
- Review of Brian B. Schmidt, *Israel’s Beneficent Dead: Ancestor Cult and Necromancy in Ancient Israelite Religion and Tradition* in *Journal of the American Oriental Society* 119.3 (1999) 512-514.
- Review of Mark S. Smith, *The Ugaritic Baal Cycle* in *Journal of Biblical Literature* 118.1 (1999) 169-171.
- Review of Rainer Albertz, *A History of Israelite Religion in the Old Testament Period. Vol 1. From the Beginnings to the End of the Monarchy. Vol. 2 From the Exile to the Maccabees*, in *Bible Review* (June 1996) 12, 14.

- Review of Susan Ackerman, *Under Every Green Tree: Popular Religion in Sixth-Century Judah* in *Journal of Biblical Literature* 113.4 (1994) 705-708.
- Review of Mark S. Smith, *The Early History of God: Yahweh and the Other Deities in Ancient Israel* in *The Journal of the Interdenominational Theological Center* 18.1-2 (1990-1991) 157-164.
- Review of Jeffrey H. Tigay, *The Evolution of the Gilgamesh Epic* in *Hebrew Studies* 25 (1984) 218.

PAPERS AT INTERNATIONAL/NATIONAL/ANNUAL MEETINGS & INVITED PAPERS

- “Mark Smith’s Contributions to Ancient Israelite Religion: The Goddess ‘Athtartu/‘Aštart/Astarte,” Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, Boston, 2020 [Religions of Israel and Judah in their West Asian Environment Section—Postponed due to Covid-19 pandemic until 2021]
- “Aramean Divinity in the Bar Rakib Inscriptions,” Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, Boston, 2020 [Aramaic Studies Section]
- “Bar-Rakib’s Portrayal of Divinity, Aramean and Otherwise,” 51st ARAM Conference on “The Aramaeans B.C.: History, Literature, and Archaeology” Oriental Institute, University of Oxford, 2020. [Postponed due to Covid-19 pandemic until 2021]
- “Ugaritic ‘Athtartu, Food Production and Textiles: More Data for Reassessing the Biblical Portrayal of ‘Aštart in Context,” Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, Denver, 2018 [Hebrew Scriptures & Cognate Literatures Section]
- “Bar-Rakib’s Legitimation and The Problem of a Missing Corpse: The End of the Panamuwa Inscription in Light of the Katumuwa Inscription,” 47th ARAM Conference on “The Aramaeans B.C.: History, Literature, and Archaeology” Oriental Institute, University of Oxford, 2018.
- “A Holy Warrior at Kuntillet Ajrud? Kuntillet ‘Ajrud Plaster Inscription 4.2,” Annual Meeting of the Biblical Colloquium, 2017.
- “Ziony Zevit, Biblical Studies and Ancient Israelite Religion: Methodological Issues,” Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, San Antonio, 2016 [National Association of Professors of Hebrew]
- “God and King—Sex and Peril: Ravenous Gods and the Provision of Agriculture” University of British Columbia, Canada, 2016
- “God (‘Ilu) and King in KTU 1.23,” Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, Atlanta, 2015 [Ugaritic Studies and Northwest Semitic Epigraphy Section]
- “The Commemoration of the Dead in the Ancient Levant and in Biblical Traditions,” Oriental Institute, University of Chicago, 2014
- “The Iconography of Divinity: Aniconic Representations,” Near East Archaeological Society, 2013
- “Representing Yahwistic Divinity in Ancient Israel,” Amherst College, 2013
- “Magic in Ancient Israel,” Wheaton College, 2013
- “Neighbors in Contact—Canaanite Religious Culture and Israelite Culture,” American Jewish University, Los Angeles, 2013
- “How did the Israelites Depict God? Divine Iconography in the Hebrew Bible and Archaeology,” ASOR/Biblical Archaeology Society Seminar on Biblical Archaeology, Orlando, 2013

- “The Rise of Monotheism—El Worship and the Origins of Yahwism,” ASOR/Biblical Archaeology Society Seminar on Biblical Archaeology, Orlando, 2013
- “Dragons in the Bible?: Mythopoeic versus Mythopoetic Traditions,” ASOR/Biblical Archaeology Society Seminar on Biblical Archaeology, Orlando, 2013
- “The Iconography of Abstract Representations of Divinity,” Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, Chicago, 2012 [Ancient Near Eastern Iconography and the Bible Section]
- “The Identity and Function of Ugaritic Sha‘tiqatu: A Divinely Made Apotropaic Figure” Annual Meeting of the Biblical Colloquium, 2012
- “Deciphering Ancient Magic Spells: From the Late Bronze Age to Late Antiquity” Johns Hopkins University Archaeological Museum, 2012
- “Resetting our Iconoclastic Clock: The Hebrew Bible’s Use of Abstract Images to Depict the Divine,” Department of Philosophy & Religious Studies and the Ancient Mediterranean Studies Program, Towson University, 2011
- “Magic in Ancient Israel: Incantations in the Hebrew Bible and Archaeology,” Jewish Studies Seminar, University of Delaware, 2010
- “‘Athtartu’s Incantations,” Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, New Orleans, 2009 [Ugaritic Studies and Northwest Semitic Epigraphy Section]
- Review of Benjamin Sommer’s *The Bodies of God and the World of Ancient Israel* (Cambridge University Press) Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, New Orleans, 2009 [Israelite Religion in Its West Asian Environment Section]
- “Divine Nomenclature,” Johns Hopkins Alumni Association, Jerusalem, 2009
- “Magic in Ancient Israel: Incantations in the Hebrew Bible and Archaeology,” Johns Hopkins Alumni Association, Jerusalem, 2009
- “Divine Iconography in the Hebrew Bible and Archaeology,” Johns Hopkins Alumni Association, Lower Galilee, 2009
- Annual Lecture, University of Wisconsin-Madison; Sponsored by the University of Wisconsin Lectures Committee, the Department of Hebrew and Semitic Studies, the Ettinger Family Foundation, the Center for Jewish Studies, and the Madison Biblical Archaeological Society, 2008
- “Second Isaiah’s Disarmament Passages vis-à-vis Assyrian Rhetoric of Intimidation,” University of Wisconsin—Madison, Department of Hebrew and Semitic Studies, 2008
- SBL Plenary address, AAR/SBL Rocky Mountain/Great Plains Regional, Denver 2008
- “Family, Household, and Local Religion at Late Bronze Age Ugarit” American Oriental Society, Chicago, 2008
- “Who Wrote the Torah?: A Cultural Perspective from the Ancient Near East,” Community Torah Institute, Congregation Beth El, Bethesda, MD 2008
- “Incantations, Prayer, Power and Despair: How to Navigate a Supernatural World,” Archaeology Lecture Series, American Schools of Oriental Research and The Jewish Community Center of Greater Washington, DC, 2007
- “The Effective Power of Words: Incantations in Ancient Israel?,” Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, San Diego, CA, 2007
- “The Effective Power of Words: Incantations in Ancient Israel?,” Annual Meeting of the Biblical Colloquium, 2007
- “Incantations, Prayer, Power and Despair: How to Navigate a Supernatural World,” Mid-Atlantic ASOR/SBL Conference on The Archaeology of Worship, Baltimore Hebrew University, 2007.
- “Who Led the Scapegoat in Leviticus 16:21?,” with Raymond Westbrook, Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, Washington, D.C., 2006.

- “Icons of Power and Persuasion” Assyriology and the Bible section of Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, Philadelphia, 2005.
- “‘You Have Heard [and Seen] What the Kings of Assyria Have Done’: Disarmament Passages vis-à-vis Assyrian Rhetoric of Intimidation,” Villa Spellman, Italy, 2005.
- Respondent for Second Millennium West Asia session of a conference on Household and Family Religion in Mediterranean and West Asian Antiquity at Brown University, 2005.
- “Early Cult Centers, El Worship, and the Origins of Yahwism,” California Museum of Ancient Art, Los Angeles, CA, 2004.
- “Ancient Israelite Prophecy in Its Ancient Near Eastern Environment,” “Ancient Israel's Rejection of Divine Images in Light of Ancient Near Eastern Texts and Archaeology,” and “El Worship,” Biblical Archaeology Society (Tampa, FL), 2004.
- “The Relevance of Studying Ugaritic/Canaanite Religion for Understanding Ancient Israelite Religion,” Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, 2004.
- “Ancient Israelite Religion: The Cultic Image as a Case Study,” Archaeological Institute of America: Washington DC Society, 2003.
- “Ancient Israelite Religion: The Extra Biblical Evidence (Cult Centers, Iconography, Epigraphy and Onomastics),” Institute for Biblical Research. Annual SBL Meeting, Atlanta, 2003.
- “El Worship,” Annual Meeting of the Biblical Colloquium, Princeton University, 2003
- “El Worship” The American Friends of the Israel Exploration Society Lecture held at the Jewish Community Center of Greater Washington D.C., 2003.
- “Covenant and Blood Rituals: Understanding Exodus 24:3-8 Against its Ancient Near Eastern Backdrop,” Colloquium for Biblical Research, Montreat, North Carolina, 2002.
- “Divine Images in Ancient Syria and Ancient Israel,” ASOR lecture, Fernbank Museum, Atlanta, GA, 2002.
- “Israel's Covenant With Its God,” New York University, 2001.
- “Syro-Palestinian Iconography and Divine Images,” The Johns Hopkins University, 2000; Biblical Archaeology Study Group of Greater Atlanta (Emory University), 2001.
- “Syro-Palestinian Iconography and Cultic Images: Promises and Pitfalls,” Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, Nashville, 2000 [Israelite Religion in its West Asian Environment Section].
- “Ugarit and the Bible,” Biblical Archaeology Study Group of Greater Atlanta (Emory University), 1999.
- “Ugaritic El and Israelite El in Text and Iconography,” Plenary Speaker, Annual Meeting of the American Schools of Oriental Research, Orlando, 1998 [Plenary Session on Ugarit and the Bible].
- “Divine Images in Ancient Israel” Penn Lectures in Judaic Studies [co-sponsored by the University of Pennsylvania, The Center for Judaic Studies, The University Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, The Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia], 1998.
- “The Archaeology of Iron Age Representations of Divinity,” Westminster Seminary, 1998.
- “The Interface of Archaeology, Text, and Anthropology: Death Beliefs as a Case Study” University of Pennsylvania, Center for Judaic Studies, 1997.
- “The Ugaritic Tablets Digital Edition,” Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, New Orleans, 1996. [Ugaritic Studies and Northwest Semitic Epigraphy Group]
- “How Far Can Texts Take Us? Evaluating Textual Sources for Reconstructing Ancient Israelite Beliefs About the Dead,” Annual Meeting of the American Schools of Oriental Research, New Orleans, 1996. [Archaeology and the Religion of Israel Section]

- “Pictures of God? Israel’s Rejection of Divine Images in Light of Ancient Near Eastern Texts and Archaeology,” University of Wisconsin and the Madison Biblical Archaeological Society (Annual Lecture), 1996.
- “Digitizing Ugaritic Texts,” University of Wisconsin, Department of Hebrew and Semitic Studies, 1996.
- “Applying Modern Technology to the Study of the Biblical Text,” Toccoa Falls College (Annual TFC Professional Development Lecture), 1995.
- “The Identity and Function of the Deity El Berith,” Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, Chicago, 1994. [Mitchell Dahood Award Lecture]
- “Toward a Literary Translation of the Rapiuma Texts” Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, Chicago, 1994. [Ugaritic Studies and Northwest Semitic Epigraphy Group]
- “God Versus the Dragon: The Ancient Near Eastern Backdrop of a Biblical Motif,” Biblical Archaeology Study Group of Greater Atlanta (Emory University), 1994.
- “KTU 1.20-22: The Ugaritic Rapiuma Texts” translation workshop sponsored by the National Endowment for the Humanities/Society of Biblical Literature, New York, 1993.
- Respondent to three papers by A. Cooper & B. Goldstein, W. Pitard, and K. van der Toorn at the Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, San Francisco, 1992. [Israelite and Canaanite Religion Section]
- “El/Baal Berith Reexamined,” Annual Meeting of the American Schools of Oriental Research, San Francisco, 1992.
- “Dragon Mythology in the Ancient Near East,” Emory University, Atlanta Old Testament Colloquium, 1992.
- “Ezekiel 32 and CT 13.33-34: Combat Myths Revisited,” Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature (Hebrew Scriptures & Cognate Literature Section), Kansas City, 1991.
- A critique of Mark S. Smith's *The Early History of God. Yahweh and the Other Deities in Ancient Israel* (Harper & Row, 1990). Panel discussion at the Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature (Ugaritic Studies Section), Kansas City, 1991.
- “A Prologue to the Further Study of Ancient Israelite Religion,” University of Michigan, Department of Near Eastern Studies, 1990.
- “The Ancestral Estate (*nahalat ’elohim*) in 2 Samuel 14:16,” Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature (Hebrew Scriptures & Cognate Literature Section), Anaheim, CA, 1989.
- “The Role of Shapshu in the Ugaritic Funerary Text (*KTU* 1.161),” Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature (Ugaritic Studies Section), Chicago, 1988.
- “Death Cult Imagery in Isaiah 57,” Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature (Prophetic Literature Section), Boston, 1987.
- “Cults of the Dead in Ancient Israel and Ugarit,” Southern Methodist University, 1986.
- “Ancestor Worship in the Ancient Near East,” Ohio State University, 1986.

GRANTS

- Board of Advisors, West Semitic Research (University of Southern California) and InscriptiFact NEH Research and Development Grant for rolling edition of Northwest Semitic Texts from the Iron Age as well as a NEH Level II Start-up Grant devoted to Digital Strategies for Paleographic Analysis
- Board of Advisors, West Semitic Research (University of Southern California) and InscriptiFact NEH Humanities Collections and Reference Resources Grant (Project: An Online Resource for the Palaeography of the Alphabet)

- Ancient Near Eastern Consultant to the Johns Hopkins University's Digital Hammurabi project, a joint endeavor funded by the National Science Foundation involving Computer Science/Graphics Lab, Whiting School of Engineering Electro-Optics Group/Air Defense, Applied Physics Laboratory, and the Department of Near Eastern Studies, Krieger School of Arts & Sciences
- Member, Faculty Advisory Committee for Prof. Steven Gross's Templeton/Metanexus Research Lecture Grant on cognitive science and religion entitled "Evolution, Cognition, and Culture"
- Research fellowship, University of Pennsylvania, Center for Advanced Judaic Studies
- University of Georgia Humanities Center Fellowship
- NEH Summer Seminar, Department of Near East Studies, University of Arizona
- Instructional Improvement Grant [Image Databank for Teaching World Religions]
- Participant in NEH grant given to the Society of Biblical Literature to produce *Writings From the Ancient World*
- Sarah H. Moss Fellowship to research Semitic philology at Harvard University and epigraphy at the University of Southern California's West Semitic Research Center
- Senior Faculty Research Grants, University of Georgia
- Junior Faculty Research Grants, University of Georgia

HONORS & AWARDS

- Dean's Award for Excellence in Research [2019]
- Excellence in Faculty Graduate Teaching and Mentoring Award. Krieger School of Arts and Sciences. Johns Hopkins University [2016]
- Guggenheim Fellowship 2009-2010. [John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation]
- Research Fellow, Center for Advanced Judaic Studies, University of Pennsylvania
- Member, Biblical Colloquium 2002-Present
- Humanities Center Fellow, University of Georgia
- J. Hatten Howard III Teaching Award [UGA Honors Program]
- NEH Fellow, University of Arizona
- Fellow of the Institute for Research in the Humanities, University of Wisconsin—Madison
- Winner of Mitchell Dahood Memorial Prize Competition
- Sarah H. Moss Fellow
- ITT International Fellow to Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- Academic Trustee, William F. Albright Institute of Archaeological Research, Jerusalem (2003-2014). Committees: Fellowships & Scholarships, Long-Range Planning, Nominating, Trude Dothan Lectureship, Ad hoc Committee on Unprovenanced Material
- Editor, *Near Eastern Archaeology* (2001-2003); Editorial Board (1999-2001); ASOR Committee on Publications (2001-2003)
- General Editor, *Writings from the Ancient World* (2001-present); Associate Editor (1998-2001); Co-sponsored by the Society of Biblical Literature and the National Endowment for the Humanities. Translator (1992-1996)
 - 23 WAW volumes produced under my general editorship:
 - Jim Lindenberger, (ed. K. Richards), *Hebrew and Aramaic Letters* (2nd edition; 2003)

- Martti Nissinen, C.L. Seow, and R. Ritner (ed. P. Machinist), *Prophets and Prophecy in the Ancient Near East* (2003)
 - Herman L. J. Vanstiphout (ed. J. Cooper), *Epics of Sumerian Kings: The Matter of Aratta* (2003)
 - Jean-Jacques Glassner, (ed. B. Foster), *Mesopotamian Chronicles* (2004)
 - Jim Allen (ed. P. Der Manuelian), *Ancient Egyptian Pyramid Texts* (2005)
 - Nigel Strudwick (ed. R. Leprohon), *Texts from the Pyramid Age* (2005)
 - Elizabeth Froom (ed. J. Baines), *Biographical Texts from Ramessid Egypt* (2007)
 - Harry Hoffner, (ed. G. Beckman), *Letters from the Hittite Kingdom* (2009)
 - Robert Ritner (ed. E. Wente), *The Libyan Anarchy: Inscriptions from Egypt's Third Intermediate Period* (2009)
 - Maynard Maidman, (ed. A. Guinan) *Nuzi Texts and Their Uses as Historical Evidence* [2010]
 - Gary Beckman, Trevor Bryce and Eric Cline (ed. B. J. Collins), *The Ahhiyawa Texts* (2011)
 - Annick Payne (ed. H. C. Melchert), *Iron Age Hieroglyphic Luwian Inscriptions* (2012)
 - Ronald Leprohon (ed. D. Doxey), *The Great Name: Ancient Egyptian Royal Titulary* (2013)
 - Yoram Cohen (ed. A. George), *Wisdom Literature from the Late Bronze Age* (2013)
 - Jared L. Miller (ed. M. Giorgieri), *Royal Hittite Instructions and Related Administrative Texts* (2013)
 - Shalom E. Holtz (ed. C. Wunsch) *Neo-Babylonian Trial Records* (2014)
 - JoAnn Scurlock (ed. M. Stol), *Sourcebook for Ancient Mesopotamian Medicine* (2014)
 - Jim Allen (ed. P. Der Manuelian), *Ancient Egyptian Pyramid Texts*, 2nd edition (2015)
 - Tzvi Abusch (ed. M. Worthington), *The Witchcraft Series Maqlû* (2015)
 - John Darnell and Colleen Darnell (ed. A. Spalinger), *The Ancient Egyptian Netherworld Books* (2018)
 - Michele Cammarosano (ed. T. van den Hout), *Hittite Local Cults* (2018)
 - Martti Nissinen, C.L. Seow, and R. Ritner (ed. P. Machinist), *Prophets and Prophecy in the Ancient Near East*. Second enlarged edition (2019)
 - Cécile Michel, *Women in Aššur and Kaneš from the Private Archives of Assyrian Merchants of the Early 2nd Millennium BCE* (eds. J. S. Cooper, B. R. Foster, K.L. Veenhof; in press)
- 23 WAW volumes in preparation under my general editorship:
 - Annalisa Azzoni and Andrew Gross, *Aramaic Legal Texts* (in preparation)
 - Moshe Bernstein, Edward Cook and Aaron Koller, *Aramaic Literary Texts from the Dead Sea Scrolls* (in preparation)
 - Giorgio Buccellati and Alice Mandell, *Letters from the Amarna Period* (in preparation)
 - Billie Jean Collins, *Hittite Rituals from Luwian Lands* (in preparation)
 - Sophie Démare-Lafont, et al. *Judicial Decisions in Mesopotamia (Rendre la Justice)* in preparation)
 - Eckart Frahm, Mary Frazer and Enrique Jiménez, *An Anthology of Cuneiform Commentaries* (in preparation)
 - Christina Geisen and John Darnell, *Ancient Egyptian Ritual Texts* (in preparation)
 - Amir Gilan, *Historical Literature from the Old Hittite Kingdom* (in preparation)
 - Susanne Görke, Doris Prechel and Giulia Torri, *Hittite Royal Rituals* (in preparation)
 - Andrew Gross, *An Anthology of Bronze Age Legal Documents from Ancient Syria* (in preparation)
 - Tawny L. Holm, *Aramaic Literary Texts* (in preparation)
 - John Huehnergard and Dennis Pardee, *Letters from Ras Shamra* (in preparation)
 - Richard Jasnow, *Texts from the Late Period in Egypt* (in preparation)

- Janet H. Johnson, *Women in Ancient Egypt: A Sourcebook of Writings Involving Non-Royal Women* (in preparation)
 - Alan Lenzi, *Akkadian Shuila Prayers* (in preparation)
 - Theodore J. Lewis, *Archaic Aramaic* (in preparation)
 - Reinhard Pirngruber, R. J. Van der Spek and Irving L. Finkel, *Babylonian Chronographic Texts from the Hellenistic Period* (in preparation)
 - Beate Pongratz-Leisten, *Ritual in Akkadian Texts* (in preparation)
 - Philip C. Schmitz, Robert D. Holmstedt and Aaron Schade, *Phoenician and Punic Inscriptions* (in preparation)
 - Oktor Skjaervø and Dan Sheffield, *Achaemenid Royal Inscriptions* (in preparation)
 - Matthew J. Suriano and Jacqueline Vayntrub, *Hebrew and Aramaic Writings about the Dead from Judah and Judea: Eighth ct BCE through First Ct BCE*.
 - Günther Vittman, *An Anthology of Demotic Legal and Administrative Documents from Late Period Egypt* (in preparation)
 - Christopher Woods, *Gilgamesh in Sumerian Literary Tradition* (in preparation)
- Editor, *Hebrew Annual Review* (1990-1994) [published by Ohio State University]
 - Editorial Board, *Journal of Biblical Literature* (1999-2001/1st term; 2002-2004/2nd term)
 - Referee for the Academy of Finland (2017)
 - Referee for the National Endowment for the Humanities (2007, 2000, 1999); Guggenheim Fellowship (2003)
 - Fulbright Award National Screening Committee, Institute for International Education (1997, 1994, 1993)
 - Chair and Co-Chair of the Hebrew Scriptures & Cognate Literature Sections of the Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature (1996-98/2nd term; 1993-95/1st term); Steering Committee (1989-2000); Chaired sessions at 11 national meetings.
 - Research Associate, University of Southern California's West Semitic Research Project
 - Board of Advisors, West Semitic Research/InscriptiFact NEH Research and Planning Grant, Rolling Edition of Northwest Semitic Texts from the Iron Age
 - 1995 epigraphic expedition to Syria (National Museum in Damascus and the Aleppo National Museum)
 - Referee, *Biblical Archaeologist*, *Bulletin of the American Schools of Oriental Research*, Cambridge University Press, *Hebrew Annual Review*, *Journal of Ancient Near Eastern Religions*, *Journal of the American Oriental Society*, *Near Eastern Archaeology*, Oxford University Press, *Shofar: An Interdisciplinary Journal of Jewish Studies*, *Society of Biblical Literature Dissertation Series*, Yale University Press
 - Chair, “Representations of Deity in Ancient Israel,” University of Pennsylvania's Gruss Colloquium in Judaic Studies (1998)
 - Chair, “Contract, Constitution, and Rhetoric in Biblical Law” session, American Society for Legal History (2006)
 - Consultant to the Institute of Continuing Judicial Education of Georgia
 - Outside Promotion and Tenure Referee: Hebrew University, Jerusalem; University of British Columbia, Canada; Emory University, Pacific School of Religion—Berkeley, CA, Penn State University, Rutgers University, University of Arizona, University of California Los Angeles, University of Maryland—College Park, University of Pennsylvania, Vanderbilt University, Villanova University

- Program Evaluator: The Catholic University of America: Department of Semitic and Egyptian Languages and Literatures; Wheaton College, Departments of Bible, Archaeology, World Religions, and Theology

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