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CURRENT POSITIONS

Associate Professor, Hebrew Bible, Drew University Theological School (2007-Present)

EDUCATION

- Ph.D., Princeton Theological Seminary, May 2005
- Th.M., Princeton Theological Seminary, May 2000
- Maîtrise en Théologie, Faculty of Protestant Theology, Cameroon (1995)

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

Associate Professor, Hebrew Bible, Drew University Theological School (2007-Present)

Assistant Professor, Hebrew Bible, Wabash College, Indiana (2005-2007)

Visiting Professor, Biblical Studies, Pacific Lutheran University, Tacoma WA (2004-2005)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- *Journal of Biblical Literature* Editorial Board Member (2017-Present)
- Co-Chair, African Biblical Hermeneutics Section, SBL (2014-Present)
- Board Member, International Meetings, SBL (2014-2017)
- Board Member, Mid Atlantic Regional SBL (2017-2020)
- Board Member, Global Health Catalysts organization
- Reviews of Journal submissions (*JTSA*, *JBL*) and Book (*Horizons*)
- External Reviewer of Dissertation (University of KwaZulu-Natal) and Faculty (University of South Africa)
- Wabash Center workshop leader on “Peer Mentoring Cluster” for minority faculty.
Responsibility: design and facilitate 2 days of work for the cluster leaders as they consider the goals and designs of their cluster conversations, especially highlighting the value of relationship formation around storytelling, institutional presence, and renewal.
- Part-time Pastor at South Presbyterian Church, Yonkers, NY (2018-present)

PUBLICATIONS

Single authored Monographs

- *Let My People Live: Towards an Africana Reading of Exodus* (Westminster John Knox Press; anticipated publication date, 2022).

Edited Volumes

- Co-editor, *Navigating African Biblical Hermeneutics: Trends and Themes from our Pots and our Calabashes* (Newcastle, UK: Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2018).
- Co-editor, *World Christianity, Urbanization and Identity* (Fortress Press, 2021)
- Co-editor of *Africana Studies and Religion: Critical Explorations* (Fordham Press, 2021)

- Co-editor, *Preparing for Parts Unknown: Global Health, International Travel and Missions* (Lulu: Global Health Catalyst, 2021).

Peer Reviewed Articles

- “Exodus as a Door of (No) Return” *Journal of Biblical Literature* 136/1 (2017), 213-220.
- “The Making of Gershom’s Story: A Cameroonian Postwar Hermeneutics Reading of Exodus 2,” *JBL* 134/4 (2015): 899-920.
- “Using Bible Commentaries in the Classroom” Panel discussion published in *Teaching Theology and Religion* 16/1 (2013), 52-65.
- Ethnicity, Adoption, and Exodus: A Socio-Rhetorical Reading of Exodus 2:1-10,” *JSOT* 38/2 (2013), 163-187.
- “Did Job Suffer for Nothing? The Ethics of Piety, Presumption and the Reception of Disaster in the Prologue of Job,” *JSOT* 33/3 (2009), 359-380.
- “What do People Say the Bible Says? And You, What do You Say?” *Teaching Theology and Religion* 14/2 (April, 2011), 157.

Book Review

Jason A. Carter, *Inside the Whirlwind: The Book of Job through African Eyes* (African Christian Studies Series. Eugene, Oregon: Pickwick Publications, 2017), in *Horizons in Biblical Theology* 40 (2018), 93-98.

Chapters/Essays in Edited Volumes

- “Children in the book of Proverbs,” in Sharon Betsworth and Julie Faith Parker eds., *Handbook of Children and Childhood in the Biblical World* (Bloomsbury T&T, 2019), 131-154
- 2019. “Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24”; and “Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18; Judges 4:1-7” in *Connections: A Lectionary Commentary for Preaching and Worship. Year A, Vol. 3.* Eds., Joel B. Green et al (Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox). Pp. 475-481 and 493-497.
- “Bible and Colony-Related Necropolitics” in *Bible and Colonialism* eds. Fernando Segovia and Tat-Siong Benny Liew (Lexington Books, 2018)
- “Towards Healing the Whole Person and Community” in *Global Oncology: Harvard Global Health Catalyst Summit Lecture Notes* eds. Wilfred Ngwa and Paul Nguyen (2017)
- Ngwa et al., “Closing the Cancer Divide Through *Ubuntu*: Information and Communication Technology-Powered Models for Global Radiation Oncology” in *Int. Journal of Radiation Oncology* 94/3 (March, 2016), 440-449.
- “The Story of Exodus and its Literary Kinships,” in Danna Nolan Fewell ed., *The Oxford Handbook of Biblical Narrative* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2016), 125-136.
- Kenneth Ngwa and Gerald West, “African Art,” in ed. Timothy Beal, *The Oxford Encyclopedia of the Bible and the Arts* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2015), 22-35
- “Knowledge.” In *The Oxford Encyclopedia of the Bible and Theology* (OEBT) Volume 2, KIN-WOR ed., Samuel Balentine (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2015), 13-19.
- “Superabundance,” *The Living Pulpit* 22 (Winter, 2013), 4-6.

Online (Podcast and Blog Post)

- "We Need a Teaching Movement." Conversation with Wabash Center Director, Dr. Lynne Westfield (Episode #33. Recorded on 04/27/2020)
<https://www.wabashcenter.wabash.edu/resources/podcasts/>
- "Positively Outraged with COVID: An Open Letter to the Coronavirus,"
<https://www.wabashcenter.wabash.edu/2020/04/positively-outraged-with-covid-an-open-letter-to-the-coronavirus/>
- "Ferguson, Bible, and the 'Long Division' of Race." Posted 9/22/2014;
http://wabashcenter.typepad.com/antiracism_pedagogy/2014/09/fergusson-bible-and-the-long-division-of-race.html

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

- 2019. "Climate Change and Postcolonial Transnationalism: An Afro-eco Reading of Exodus 7-11," SBL Meeting in San Diego.
- 2019. Respondent on a Book Review panel (*Navigating African Biblical Hermeneutics: Themes and Trends from Our Pots and Our Calabashes*. Cambridge: Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2018). SBL Meeting in San Diego
- 2018. Respondent and Panelist on Racism, Pedagogy and Biblical Studies; Theme: *Teaching about Racism in Biblical Studies in the Context of the Black Lives Matter Movement*. SBL Meeting in Denver CO.
- 2018. Book review Panelist on Robert S. Heaney's *From Historical to Critical Post-Colonial Theology: The Contribution of John S. Mbiti and Jess N. K. Mugambi* (Eugene: Pickwick, 2015). AAR Meeting in Denver, CO
- 2018. "African Biblical Hermeneutics in Global Christian Landscape: A Diasporic Approach." Conference on World Christianity and Missions (Princeton Theological Seminary, Jan 2018)
- 2017. Panelist on The Book of Exodus: Emancipatory Potentials and Moral Problematics (SBL Meeting in Boston)
- 2017. "Exodus and Exile as Doors of (no) Return? Moses, Sundiata, and the Constructions of Afro-Spatial Genealogies," SBL Meeting in Boston, MA.
- 2017. Plenary Address: "Rememory, Storytelling, and the (Un)explainable in Exodus 32." Mid-Atlantic AAR/SBL meeting.
- 2017. "Religion and Global Health" Global health Catalyst Panel (Dana Farber Cancer Institute, Harvard Medical School)
- 2016. Respondent to papers on Methodologies in African Biblical hermeneutics. SBL Meeting in San Antonio, TX.
- 2015. Respondent to papers on Islands, Islanders, and Scriptures: Biblical Coastlands, Coastal Readings." SBL Meeting in Atlanta, GA
- 2015. Panel Discussion "God, Scripture, and the Colonized." (Union Theological Seminary)
- 2014. "Bible after Gunshots: African Biblical Hermeneutics as Postwar Hermeneutics." SBL Meeting in San Diego, CA.
- 2012. AAR Panel discussion: "The Bible and Colonialism: Africa and the Middle East."

- 2012. SBL Presentation: “Political Transformation and Paradox in the Postcolony: A Reading of Exodus 2:11-15.”
- 2012, Paper presented at Old Testament Research Colloquium at Princeton Theological Seminary “Ethnicity and Identity Construction in Exodus 2:1-10.”
- 2011, Tipple Vosburgh Lectures, Drew Theological School: “Who Made You Ruler over us? Identity and the Construction of a Nation-State.”
- 2011, Guest Lecturer Princeton Theological Seminary: “Proverbs and Methods of Interpretation.”
- 2010, SBL Presentation: “Personification as Pedagogy in Proverbs 1-9.”
- 2010, SBL Presentation: “Hermeneutics of the Impossible: Interpreting Job through a Cameroonian Cultural Lens.”
- 2010, Wabash Center Panel discussion on teachings goals and methods using Bill Placher’s commentary on Mark. “Commentaries in the Classroom: Reading the Bible Theologically.”
- 2008 Presentation at New York Theological Seminary. February: “Multiethnicity in the Bible: The Case of Hagar and Abraham.”
- “Struggling to Reconstruct: The Art of Samuel Bak and the Epilogue of Job.” (Tipple Vosburgh Lectures, Drew Theological School. August, 2009)

OTHER ACADEMIC WORK AND SERVICE

- Director of the Religion and Global Health Forum (launched in February, 2020) at Drew University Theological School. The Forum works at the interface of religion and global health concerns, and is associated with the Global Health Catalysts work begun at Harvard Medical School, but now a consortium of universities, including Universities of Pennsylvania, Oxford, Heidelberg, Johns Hopkins, and Tanzania.
- Co-Chair, African Biblical Hermeneutics Section (SBL, 2014-Present). Worked to advance African Biblical Hermeneutics within SBL, including creating sessions with other Sections, providing mentorship to junior scholars, and publications.
- Presiding at several SBL meeting sessions at national and regional levels.
- Founder, “Never Stop Breathing” organization (launched in July, 2020). This organization is a natural extension of the Religion and Global Health Forum work, and seeks to mobilize churches and religious institutions to develop and implement concrete programs that enhance systemic racial and health justice (www.neverstopbreathing.org)
- Regular review of submissions for the *Journal of Biblical Literature* (2017-present)
- Facilitator/leader of Peer Mentoring Cluster Workshop for faculty of Color at Wabash Center, Wabash College, Indiana (2018-present)

ACADEMIC AWARDS/GRANTS

- Wabash Center, Minority Scholars Peer Mentoring Grant, 2016
- General Board of Higher Education and Ministry of the United Methodist Church Scholar/Teacher of the Year Award (2013).
- Wabash Center Research Grant (Topic: “The Spirituality of Critical Thinking: Exodus, Knowledge, and Theological Education”), 2010.

- Drew Theological School's Center for Christianities in Global Contexts (funded by the Henry Luce Foundation) "Exodus" Course Development Grant, 2008.

AREAS OF TEACHING AND RESEARCH INTEREST

- African Biblical Hermeneutics
- Africana critical theory
- Ancient Israelite Wisdom Literature
- Liberation and Exodus Traditions
- Hebrew Bible Exegesis
- Postcolonial Theory and Interpretations
- African Religions, epics Narratives and Proverbs
- History of Interpretation (Jewish and Christian)
- Literary Theory, Psychoanalyses, and Cultural Memory

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

- Society of Biblical Literature (SBL)
- American Academy of Religion (AAR)
- Board Member African Renaissance Ambassador (ARA) www.araforchange.com

DENOMINATIONAL AFFILIATION

Presbyterian

LANGUAGES

- Modern: English, French, German (reading knowledge)
- Ancient: Hebrew, Koine Greek, Syriac/Aramaic, and Ugaritic