

## Curriculum Vitae

### JEFFERY D. LONG

Associate Professor of Religion & Asian Studies  
Chair, Department of Religious Studies  
Elizabethtown College  
Elizabethtown, PA 17022

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#### I. Educational Background

##### A. Degrees Earned and Institutions Attended

Jun. 9, 2000	PhD	Discipline:	Philosophy of Religion with concentrations in Hinduism, Buddhism, and Jainism
		Institution:	University of Chicago Divinity School
		Dissertation:	<i>Plurality and Relativity: Whitehead, Jainism, and the Reconstruction of Religious Pluralism</i>
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Jan. 1, 1994- Aug. 5, 1995		Visiting Scholar, Centre for Historical Studies Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India	
		Coursework in Sanskrit, Indian History, and German	
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Jun. 12, 1993	MA	Discipline:	Religious Studies
		Institution:	University of Chicago Divinity School
		Thesis:	<i>Rudolf Otto, Martin Buber, and the Experience of the Holy</i>
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May 18, 1991	BA	Disciplines:	Program of Liberal Studies and Theology (double major)
		Institution:	University of Notre Dame Notre Dame, Indiana
		BA Thesis:	<i>A Meeting Place at the Center: Raimundo Panikkar's Theology of Dialogue</i> (Honors Thesis)

##### B. Fellowships and Awards

June 2008	Exceptional performance award (merit pay) in the area of service
Nov. 17, 2007	Winner of 2007 DANAM/Takshashila Institute book award for <i>A Vision for Hinduism: Beyond Hindu Nationalism</i> (I.B. Tauris)
June 2007	Exceptional performance award (merit pay) in the area of scholarship
June 2006	Exceptional performance award (merit pay) in the area of teaching

April, 2006	Awarded tenure and promotion to the rank of Associate Professor at Elizabethtown College
Fall 2005- Spring 2006	Junior Leave, Elizabethtown College (This leave was divided between two semesters, resulting in my teaching a 1-2 load.)
April 30, 2003	Academic Integrity Award, Elizabethtown College
Sep. 1999- Jun. 2000	Committee on Southern Asian Studies (COSAS) Dissertation-writing Fellowship, University of Chicago
Sep. 1998- Jun. 1999	Committee on Southern Asian Studies (COSAS) Dissertation-writing Fellowship, University of Chicago
Sept. 1997- Jun. 1998	Junior Fellow, Institute for the Advanced Study of Religion, University of Chicago Divinity School

## II. Scholarship

### A. Publications and Pending Publications

#### 1. Books

**First Book Title:** *A Vision for Hinduism: Beyond Hindu Nationalism*

**Publisher:** I.B. Tauris Pvt. Ltd.

**Publication Date:** November, 2006 (UK) and January, 2007 (US)

#### Synopsis:

Two radically different ideologies are currently competing for the loyalties of the Hindu community. One of these ideologies, Hindu nationalism, conceives of Hinduness (or *Hindutva*) as co-extensive with Indianness. This conception of Hindu identity renders problematic the Indianness of non-Hindus (such as Indian Christians and Muslims), thus fuelling communal tensions within the subcontinent. But it also problematizes the possible Hinduness of non-Indians: of prospective converts to the tradition who are not of Indian nationality or ethnicity and are thereby excluded a priori from participation in the Hindu tradition.

The other ideology, expressed by such figures as Sri Ramakrishna and Mahatma Gandhi, conceives of Hinduism as the 'eternal' or 'universal' religion (*Sanatana Dharma*). It is a vision of Hinduism that is pluralistic and all-inclusive. This conception of Hinduism has been criticized for its logical incoherence, as well as on political grounds: by the Hindu nationalist camp for 'softening' Hinduism when it needs to be defended from the forces of secularism, militant Islam, and aggressively evangelizing Christianity, and by non-Hindus as a subtle form of Hindu imperialism.

In this book, Jeffery D. Long, a scholar of Hinduism trained at the University of Chicago and a convert to the tradition, argues for a reconfigured version of the second of these two ideologies. Arguing that Hindu nationalism is not only destructive to communal relations, but that it also prevents Hinduism from emerging as a world religion in the true sense of the term, Long presents a vision of Hinduism as a tradition capable of pointing the way out of the current 'clash of civilizations' that characterizes global inter-religious

relations, toward a future in which the world's religions conceive of one another, not simplistically as 'saying the same thing,' but as complementary visions of a larger reality in which they all, in various ways, participate.

**Second Book Title:** *Jainism: An Introduction*

**Publisher:** I.B. Tauris Pvt. Ltd.

**Publication Date:** July 7, 2009

**Synopsis:** An introductory textbook on Jainism designed for undergraduate courses on world and/or South Asian religions. Seeks to integrate both textual/doctrinal and more anthropological approaches to the Jain tradition and community.

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**Third Book Title:** *Historical Dictionary of Hinduism* (in progress)

**Publisher:** Scarecrow Press (a wholly owned subsidiary of Rowman and Littlefield)

**Contract Issued:** December 29, 2008

**Agreed Date for Manuscript:** May 1, 2010

**Synopsis:** A 350-400 page reference work on Hinduism; an alphabetical guide to historically significant Hindu concepts, persons, institutions, texts, etc.

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### **Co-Edited Conference Proceedings**

*Asceticism, Identity and Pedagogy in Dharma Traditions (Contemporary Issues in Constructive Dharma Vol. 3, Proceedings of Sessions of the Third DANAM Conference)*, co-edited by Ramdas Lamb, Jeffery D. Long, and Graham Schweig.

**Publisher:** Deepak Heritage Books

**Publication Date:** January 2007

### **2. Scholarly Articles–In Print**

Jan. 2011: "Sri Ramakrishna and the Harmony of Religions: The Experiential Basis of Vedantic Religious Pluralism" (In the January 2011 issue of *Prabuddha Bharata (Awakened India)*, the monthly journal of the Ramakrishna Order, Swami Satyaswarupananda, ed.)

Dec. 2010: "Bhagavad Sri Krishna: Deep Religious Pluralist? Religious Pluralism in the *Bhagavad Gita*" (In the Fall 2011 issue of *The Journal of Vaishnava Studies*)

June 2010: "(Tentatively) Putting the Pieces Together: Comparative Theology in the Tradition of Sri Ramakrishna" (In *The New Comparative Theology: Inter-Religious Insights from the Next Generation*, Francis X. Clooney, ed., Continuum Books.)

- Jan. 2010: “Anekāntavāda and the Harmony of Religions: Classical Jain and Modern Vedāntic Religious Pluralism” (In the January 2010 issue of *Prabuddha Bharata (Awakened India)*, the monthly journal of the Ramakrishna Order, Swami Satyaswarupananda, ed.)
- Oct. 2009: “War and Nonviolence in the *Bhagavad Gītā*” (In the October 2009 issue of *Prabuddha Bharata (Awakened India)*, the monthly journal of the Ramakrishna Order, Swami Satyaswarupananda, ed.)
- July 2009: “Jains” (In *Religions in Focus*, Graham Harvey, ed., Equinox Publishers.)
- April 2009: “The Paradoxes of Radical Asceticism: Jainism as a Therapeutic Paradigm” (In *The Roar of Awakening. A Whiteheadian Dialogue Between Western Psychotherapies and Eastern Worldviews*, Michel Weber, ed.)
- May 2008: “Truth, Diversity, and the Incomplete Project of Hindu Modernity” (In *Hermeneutics and Hindu Thought: Toward a Fusion of Horizons*, Arvind Sharma and Rita DasGupta Sherma, eds., Springer Press.)
- Apr. 2008 “Advaita and Dvaita: Bridging the Gap—The Ramakrishna Tradition’s both/and Approach to the Dvaita/Advaita Debate” (In the Spring 2008 issue of *The Journal of Vaishnava Studies*.)
- Mar. 2008 “Asceticism and Illumination” (In the Winter 2008 issue of *Cross Currents*.)
- Aug. 2007 “Can a Hindu Pan-Inclusivism Also Be a Deep Hindu Pluralism? A Response to Matthew Lopresti” (In the Spring/Summer issue of *Process Studies*.)
- Aug. 2007 “The Philosophy of Religion: From East to West and Back Again” (In the August 2007 issue of *Prabuddha Bharata (Awakened India)*, the monthly journal of the Ramakrishna Order, Swami Satyaswarupananda, ed.)
- Jan. 2007 “Radical Renunciation: The Aim and Purpose of Jain Asceticism” (In *Asceticism, Identity and Pedagogy in Dharma Traditions (Contemporary Issues in Constructive Dharma Vol. 3, Proceedings of Sessions of the Third DANAM Conference)*, Ramdas Lamb, Jeffery D. Long, and Graham Schweig, co-eds., Deepak Heritage Books.)
- Sep./Oct. 2006 “Teaching Philosophy Across Cultures” (Published in two parts in the September and October issues of *Prabuddha Bharata (Awakened India)*, the monthly journal of the Ramakrishna Order, Swami Satyaswarupananda, ed.)
- August 2006: “Eliminating the Root of All Evil: Interdependence and the De-Reification of the Self,” (In *Comparative Philosophy and Religion in Times of Terror*, Douglas Allen, ed., Lexington Press, Rowman Littlefield).

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(Tenure & Promotion to Associate Professor)

- Jan. 2006: “A Whiteheadian Vedanta: Outline of a Hindu Process Theology” (In *A Handbook of Process Theology*, Donna Bowman and Jay McDaniel, eds., Chalice Press.)

- Aug. 2005: “Constructive Philosophy in Hindu Studies” (In *Contemporary Issues in Constructive Dharma Volume II: Epistemology and Hermeneutics*, Rita DasGupta Sherma and Adarsh Deepak, eds. Deepak Heritage Publications).
- May 2005: “*Anekanta Vedanta: Toward a Deep Hindu Religious Pluralism*” (In *Deep Religious Pluralism: Whitehead’s Philosophy and Religious Diversity*, David Ray Griffin, ed., John Knox Westminster Press.)
- Apr. 2005: “*Dharma: A Case Study in the Ideology of Translation*” (*Elizabethtown College Papers Volume I*, Martha Pennington, ed.)
- Dec. 2004: “Claiming the Buddha for Hinduism: Swami Vivekananda and the Re-Discovery of Buddhism in India,” (In *The Cyclonic Swami: Vivekananda in the West*, Sukalyan Sengupta and Makarand Paranjape, eds. Samvad India Foundation).

### 3. Scholarly Articles–Publication Pending

- May 2011?: “Jain Philosophy” (In the *Oxford Anthology of World Philosophy*, Nalini Bhushan, ed., Oxford University Press.)
- No date: “The View from the Middle: A Scholar-Practitioner’s Reflections on *Invading the Sacred*” (for *Sophia*, an Australian philosophy journal)
- No date: “Reflections on Hinduism and Hindutva” for an edited volume by Arvind Sharma on Hinduism and Hindutva (Hindu nationalism)
- No date: “God, Creativity, Monism, and Pluralism: The Mutual Relevance of Process Thought and Hinduism” for an edited volume on process thought and world religions, edited by John Cobb
- Aug. 2011?: “Religion and Violence in Hindu Traditions” for the *Blackwell Companion to Religion and Violence*, edited by Andrew Murphy
- No date: “Ultimate Complexity: A Hindu Process Theology,” for *God and Other Ultimate Realities*, edited by Jeanine Diller
- Mar. 2011?: “Compassion for All Beings: Ethical Treatment of Animals in the Indic Religions” in *Being for the Other: Ethics and Animal Rights in Literature and Religion*, edited by Manish Vyas
- No date: “A Tale of Three Temples: Diasporic and Indigenous Hinduism in North America” for Pratap Kumar Penumela’s volume on Hinduism for Equinox Publishers.
- No date: “‘Work Is Worship’: Swāmī Vivekānanda’s Philosophy of *Seva* and the Neo-Vedāntic Contribution to the Gandhian Ethos” for Rita Sherma’s volume on *seva*.
- No date: “The Politicization of Hinduism and the Hinduization of Politics: Contrasting Hindu Nationalism with the Transformative Visions of Swami Vivekananda and Mahatma Gandhi” for Gabe Ricci’s journal *Religion and Public Life*.

#### **4. Scholarly Articles–In Progress (Under Contract)**

Articles on Jainism and Universalism in Hinduism for *Religion Compass*.

#### **5. Popular Article–In Print**

Dec. 2004 “Avatarology: A Hindu Christological Perspective” (In *Creative Transformation*, Winter 2004)

#### **6. Book Reviews–In Print**

- Nov. 2010 Book Review, Swami Tyagananda and Pravrajika Vrajaprana’s *Interpreting Ramakrishna* for *The Vedanta Kesari*.
- Jan. 2010 Book Review, D.N. Jha’s *Rethinking Hindu Identity* (*Religious Studies Review*)
- Nov. 2009 Book Review: Kamal Chand Sogani’s *Spiritual Awakening: Samyagdarśana* (*Religious Studies Review*)
- Nov. 2007 Book Review: *Invading the Sacred* (In the Winter 2007 issue of *Hinduism Today*)
- Oct. 2007 Book Review: Shirley Du Boulay’s *The Cave of the Heart: The Life of Swami Abhishiktananda* (In *Religious Studies Review*, October 2007)
- Nov. 2006 Book Review: John Hick’s *The Fifth Dimension: An Exploration of the Spiritual Realm* (*The Journal of Religion*, November 2006).

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#### **(Tenure & Promotion to Associate Professor)**

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- Sep./Oct. 2002 Book Review: Roy C. Mathew’s *The True Path: Western Science and the Quest for Yoga* (*Science and Spirit*, September/October 2002).
- Apr. 2002 Book Review: David Ray Griffin’s *Re-Enchantment without Supernaturalism: A Process Philosophy of Religion* (*The Journal of Religion*, April 2002).
- Jul. 2001 Book Review: Timothy Fitzgerald’s *The Ideology of Religious Studies* (*The Journal of Religion*, July 2001).
- Jan. 2001 Book Review: Roger Marcaurelle’s *Freedom Through Inner Renunciation: Shankara’s Philosophy in a New Light* (*The Journal of Religion*, January 2001).
- Jan. 1997 Book Review: Lawrence Babb’s *Absent Lord: Ascetics and Kings in a Jain Ritual Culture* (*South Asia Outreach Newsletter*, Winter 1997).

#### **7. Miscellaneous (Editing Work, Forewords, Blurbs, etc.)**

- Apr. 2008 Wrote foreword to Debasis Bagchi’s *Nimbarka Philosophy*.
- Jan. 2008 Consultant for article on Hinduism in Bali in the January 2008 issue of *National Geographic*.

- Apr. 2007 Co-edited "Introduction to Hinduism: Short Answers to Real Questions about Hinduism," an online resource on Hinduism developed by the Hindu American Foundation.
- Apr. 2007 Wrote back-cover blurb for V.V. Raman's *Reflections on Indian Heritage*.
- Nov. 2006 Edited and wrote foreword to *Hyperlink to Hinduphobia*, report by the Hindu American Foundation on anti-Hindu hate sites on the internet.
- Aug. 2006 Offered expert testimony in a California court case on the representation of Hinduism in public school social studies textbooks.
- July, 2006 Edited sections on India for Macmillan/McGraw-Hill Sixth Grade Social Studies Textbook.

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(Tenure & Promotion to Associate Professor)

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- Mar. 2006 Wrote foreword to Pravrajika Gayatriprana and Jay Lakhani's *Swami Vivekananda on the Vedas and Upanishads*.
- Feb. 2005 Wrote back-cover blurb for Jay McDaniel's *Gandhi's Hope* (Orbis Books).

**B. Conference Papers and Workshop and Faculty Forum Presentations**

- Nov. 2010: American Academy of Religion (summer seminar, presider over Ramakrishna book panel, participant in Arvind's panel, presider over NA Hinduism business meeting)
- Jun. 13-20, 2010: Participant in American Academy of Religion Summer Seminar on Comparative Theologies of Religious Pluralism (Atlanta, Georgia)
- Mar. 22, 2010: "Affirming the Unity of Being: Hinduism and Its Relation to Environmental Issues" (University of Toledo, Toledo, Ohio)
- Mar. 21, 2010: "Hinduism and the Academic Study of Religion" (Hindu Temple of Toledo, Toledo, Ohio)
- Mar. 19, 2010: "Yaśovijaya's View of Yoga," (*Jaina Studies Workshop*, School of Oriental and African Studies, London)
- Nov. 19, 2009: Panelist, "Is Elizabethtown College a Peace College?" (*Center for Global Citizenship, Elizabethtown College*)
- Nov. 8, 2009: "Some Reflections on Hinduism and Hindutva" (*North American Hindu Association of Dharma Studies, Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Montreal, Canada*)
- Nov. 7, 2009: Respondent, "Asceticism in Dharma Traditions II: Laity and Their Practices" (Panel for the *Dharma Association of North America, Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Montreal, Canada*)

- Nov. 6, 2009: Presider, “*Traditional Indian Thinking on Culture Looks at Contemporary Indian and World Media Cultures*” (Panel for the *Dharma Association of North America, Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Montreal, Canada—afternoon*)
- Nov. 6, 2009: “Reductionism as Ekānta: Anekānta-vāda and the Analysis of Power” (*Dharma Association of North America, Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Montreal, Canada—morning*)
- Apr. 2, 2009: Panelist, “The Tightrope: Walking the Line Between Academia and Practice” (*Hinduism Awareness Week, Princeton University*)
- Nov. 20, 2008: Panelist, “God and the State: Religion, Citizenship, and the Public Square” (*Center for Global Citizenship, Elizabethtown College*)
- Nov. 10, 2008: Panelist, “Faiths on Fire: The Roots and Ramifications of Hindu-Christian Violence in India” (*Princeton University*)
- Nov. 1, 2008: Respondent, “*Writs and Chains: Verbal Testimony as Limit and License in the Comparative Theological Project*” (Panel for the *American Academy of Religion, Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL—afternoon*)
- Nov. 1, 2008: “Vedantic Seva and Gandhian Karma Yoga: The Continuity of Vivekananda’s Vedanta and Gandhi’s Constructive Program” (*North American Hindu Association of Dharma Studies, Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Chicago, IL—morning*)
- Oct. 30, 2008: “Hindu—To Be or Not To Be: Three Possible Reasons for Aversion to the Term ‘Hindu’ among Western Practitioners” (*Dharma Association of North America, Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Chicago, IL*)
- Sep. 28, 2007: “War and Nonviolence in the *Bhagavadgita*: Correcting Common Misconceptions” (*Peace and Justice Studies Association Annual Meeting, Elizabethtown College*)
- Sep. 22, 2007: “Hinduism, Tolerance, and Pluralism: The Convergence of the Hindu and American Traditions” (*Hindu American Foundation Fundraiser, Long Island, New York*)
- Apr. 21, 2007: “Hinduism and Human Rights” (*Humanity, Interrupted: Symposium on Human Rights, Millersville University*)
- Nov. 26, 2006: “Hinduism as Spiritual Humanism: The Pluralistic Vision of the Ramakrishna Mission” (*Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Washington, DC*)
- Nov. 25, 2006: Presider, Panel on Hindu ritual for the *Dharma Association of North America, Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Washington, DC*)



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(Tenure & Promotion to Associate Professor)

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- Nov. 18, 2005: Presider and Respondent, “Who Is a Hindu?” (Panel for the *Dharma Association of North America, Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Philadelphia, PA—afternoon*)
- Nov. 18, 2005: “Radical Renunciation: The Aim and Purpose of Jain Asceticism” (*Dharma Association of North America, Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Philadelphia, PA—morning*)
- Oct. 15, 2005: “Anekāntavāda and the Harmony of Religions: Classical Jain and Modern Vedantic Pluralism” (*16th Vedanta Conference: Hindu University of America*).
- May 31, 2005: “Teaching Philosophy Across Cultures” (*East-West Philosophers Conference, University of Hawaii*)
- Apr. 16, 2005: “The Significance of Hindu Religious Pluralism for Our Time” (*PA-NAME Conference, Susquehanna University*)
- Apr. 2, 2005: “Karma and Compassion—Justifying Engaged Buddhism” (*Association for Asian Studies Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL*).
- Mar. 3, 2005: “A Defense of Hindu Religious Pluralism” (*Mid-Atlantic Regional Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, New Brunswick, NJ*).
- Nov. 20, 2004: “Constructive Philosophy in Hindu Studies” (*Dharma Association of North America Conference, Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, San Antonio, Texas—afternoon*).
- Nov. 20, 2004: “The Colonial Context and the Western Scholar-Practitioner of Hinduism” (*North American Hindu Association of Dharma Studies, Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, San Antonio, Texas—morning*).
- Jul. 10, 2004: “Pope John Paul II’s Contributions to Interfaith Dialogue: A Hindu Response” (*111<sup>th</sup> Parliament of World Religions, Barcelona*).
- Jun. 21, 2004: “No Self and Transcendent Self as Bases for a Global Ethic of Nonviolence: A Comparative Analysis of Theravada Buddhism and Neovedantic Hinduism” (*Society for Asian and Comparative Philosophy, Asilomar Conference Grounds, Asilomar, CA*).
- Jun. 4, 2004: “A Celtic Hinduism? Druids, Brahmins, and Postcolonial Identities” (*First Galway Conference on Ireland and India, National University of Ireland, Galway, Ireland*).
- Apr. 30, 2004: “*Dharma*: A Case Study in the Ideology of Translation” (*Joint Faculty Forum on Translation, Elizabethtown College*).

- Apr. 10, 2004: “The Whiteheadian Connection: Vedanta as a Postmodern Philosophy of Science” (*14th Vedanta Conference, Miami University of Ohio, Oxford, OH*).
- Nov. 23, 2003: “Truth, Diversity, and the Incomplete Project of Hindu Modernity” (*Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Atlanta, GA*).
- Jun. 29, 2003: “Claiming the Buddha for Hinduism: Swami Vivekananda and the Rediscovery of Buddhism in India” (*Conference on Swami Vivekananda’s Voyage to the West, Center for Indic Studies, University of Massachusetts at New Dartmouth*).
- May 29, 2003: “The Root of All Evil: Interdependence and the De-Reification of the Self” (*Comparative Philosophy in Times of Terror: Society for Asian and Comparative Philosophy, Asilomar Conference Grounds, Asilomar, CA*).
- Mar. 14, 2003: “Were the Harappans the Aryas? Marxist Historians, Hindu Nationalists, New Agers, and the Politics of Archaeology in South Asia” (*Mid-Atlantic Regional Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, New Brunswick, NJ*).
- Mar. 28, 2003: “*Anekanta Vedanta: Developing a Genuine Hindu Religious Pluralism*” (*Conference on Whiteheadian Religious Pluralism, Center for Process Studies, Claremont School of Theology*)
- Mar. 27, 2003: Respondent to David Ray Griffin (*Conference on Whiteheadian Religious Pluralism, Center for Process Studies, Claremont School of Theology*)
- Nov. 2002: Attended American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting in Toronto (did not present).
- Oct. 9, 2002: “‘Celtic Hinduism’: Ancient India, Ancient Ireland, and the Lost Cultural Heritage of Europe” (*Faculty Forum, Elizabethtown College*).
- Mar. 16, 2001: “Multiple Aspects and Ultimate Notions: The Deep Compatibility of Jain and Process Metaphysics” (*East/West: Points of Contact, Lycoming College, Williamsport, PA*).
- Nov. 2000: Attended American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting in Nashville (did not present).
- Sep. 20, 2000: “‘Middle Path’ vs. ‘Neutral Ground’: Threading the Labyrinth of Religious Diversity” (*Faculty Forum, Elizabethtown College*).
- Jan. 27, 2000: “‘This Doctrine of the Manyness of Reality’—Developing a Gandhian Philosophy of Religious Pluralism” (*Public lecture, Elizabethtown College*).
- Nov. 1999: Attended American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting in Boston (did not present).

- Nov. 22, 1997: “Complex Ultimates: The Three-Bodied Buddha, the Two-Natured Brahman and the Dipolar God” (*American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA*).
- Sep. 27, 1997: “Ahimsa or Assimilation? An Analysis of Jain Responses to Religious Plurality in Pre-Modern India” (*Midwestern Conference on Asian Affairs Annual Meeting, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, Illinois*).
- Apr. 7, 1997: “Plurality and Relativity: Whitehead, Jainism, and the Reconstruction of Religious Pluralism” (*The Philosophy of Religions Workshop, University of Chicago*).
- May 10, 1996: “Jainological Genealogies” (*Buddhism Across Asia Workshop, University of Chicago*).
- Fall 1992: “The Sarvastivadin Concept of Time” (*Buddhism Across Asia Workshop, University of Chicago*).

### C. Doctoral Dissertation

**Title:** *Plurality and Relativity: Whitehead, Jainism, and the Reconstruction of Religious Pluralism.*

**Advisor:** Paul J. Griffiths      **Readers:** Franklin I. Gamwell & David Tracy

**Entered Candidacy:** Summer Quarter 1997.

**Submitted Dissertation and Graduated:** Spring Quarter 2000.

#### Abstract:

This dissertation attempts to construct a pluralistic approach to religion in the tradition of Raimon Panikkar and John Hick, but with a significant difference. Unlike their theories, my approach is based on a synthesis of Whitehead’s process metaphysics and the Jain “philosophy of relativity.” I claim that a form of religious pluralism can be developed on the basis of this synthesis that expresses the understanding of the relativity of truth central to current versions of this position, without rejecting altogether the notion of an absolute truth as the logical foundation for the relativity of religious claims. The traditional Jain approach to religious and philosophical plurality is the model I use for developing a pluralistic system for the interpretation and evaluation of particular religious claims as relatively true, but I do so on the basis of Whitehead's metaphysical theism. I claim that this approach improves upon previous theories while yet advancing the same basic position that many religions can be conceived as, in various senses, true.

### D. Media Citations

I have been interviewed for my expertise and cited in the following news articles:

“Central Pa. Temple Serves a Growing Hindu Community,” by Melissa Nann Burke, *York Daily Record*, November 20, 2010.

“Distinguishing Hindu Yoga from American Yoga,” by Joan Kern, *Intelligencer Journal/Lancaster New Era*, October 22, 2010.

“Lecture on Hinduism, ecology set at University of Toledo,” by David Yonke, *The Toledo Blade*, March 20, 2010.

“Lectures to Promote Religious Understanding,” by Meghan Cunningham, *University of Toledo News*, March 18, 2010.

“Hindus to celebrate Diwali,” by James Buescher, *Lancaster Intelligencer Journal*, November 3, 2007.

“Birth of Krishna,” by James Buescher, *Lancaster Intelligencer Journal*, September 1, 2007.

“Hindu author advocates for 'harmony of religions,’” by Lori Van Ingen, *Lancaster Intelligencer Journal*, March 10, 2007.

“Swastika was symbol of good until Nazis defiled it,” by Ellis Widner, *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette*, January 20, 2005.

“Oh, for a Fair View of Hinduism...Meet a few of the brave souls who dispel myths and teach Hinduism at schools, colleges and interfaith meetings,” *Hinduism Today*, April/May/June, 2004.

“Shiva’s Great Night: Centuries-old ritual of fasting, prayer honors Hindu deity,” by Ana M. Alaya, *New Jersey Star-Ledger*, Friday, February 20, 2004.

“Do All Religious Paths Lead to the Same God? Bush Remark Renews Old Debate,” by Mark O’Keefe © 2003 *Newhouse News Service*.

#### **E. Membership in Scholarly Societies**

American Academy of Religion  
American Anthropological Association  
Association for Asian Studies  
Center for Process Studies  
Dharma Association of North America  
North American Hindu Association of Dharma Studies  
Society for Asian and Comparative Philosophy

#### **F. Service to My Discipline**

Reviewer for *Religion*, *Journal of Theology*, and *Journal of Religious History*  
Reviewer for Columbia University Press  
Co-Chair, North American Hinduism Consultation, American Academy of Religion (Nov. 2009 – present)  
Chair, Dharma Association of North America (Jan. 2008 – Dec. 2009)  
Chair, Department of Religious Studies, Elizabethtown College (Aug. 2006 – present)

#### **G. Miscellaneous Service to the Hindu Community (in addition to the aforementioned activities with Hindu American Foundation, etc.)**

April 16, 1995            Formal initiation in Hindu Dharma, Arya Samaj Mandir, Vasant Vihar, New Delhi, India

2001-present	Member, Hindu American Religious Institute (HARI) Temple, New Cumberland, Pennsylvania
2004-2005	Instructor, HARI Sunday School
2004-2007	Performed annual Lakshmi Puja to commemorate Diwali, Elizabethtown College
July 9, 2005	Formal initiation into Ramakrishna Vedanta Society
January 2008-present	Member, Board of Directors, Washington DC Kali Mandir
October 18, 2009	Performed Hindu wedding for Paritosh and Rebekah Prasad (Paritosh Prasad is the great-great grandson of Mahatma Gandhi.)

### III. Teaching

#### A. Teaching Experience Prior to Elizabethtown College

Semester	Title & Institution	Course
Summer 1997	Instructor, The University of Chicago Graham School of Continuing Studies	<i>Buddhism: Ancient and Modern</i>
Fall 1997	Instructor, The University of Chicago Graham School of Continuing Studies	<i>Hinduism: History, Myth and Philosophy</i>
Fall 1997	Instructor, Truman College, Chicago	<i>World Religions</i>
Fall 1998	Instructor, Truman College, Chicago	<i>World Religions</i>
Spring 1999	Instructor, The University of Chicago Graham School of Continuing Studies	<i>Buddhism: Ancient and Modern</i>
Fall 1999	Instructor, Truman College, Chicago	<i>World Religions</i>
	Instructor, School of the Art Institute of Chicago	<i>Introduction to Asian Philosophies</i>
	Lecturer in Theology, Loyola University	<i>Hinduism (2 sections)</i>
Spring 2000	Instructor, School of the Art Institute of Chicago	<i>Introduction to Asian Philosophies</i>
	Lecturer in Theology, Loyola University	<i>Buddhism (2 sections)</i>

#### B. Voluntary Teaching Experience in the Wider Elizabethtown Area

Spring 2009	Hershey Public Library, 5-week course, <i>Understanding Buddhism</i>
Fall 2008	Aviana Retreat Center, 5-week course, <i>Yoga Traditions</i>
Spring 2008	Hershey Public Library, 5-week course, <i>Understanding Buddhism</i>

**Fall 2007** Hershey Public Library, 5-week course, *Understanding Hinduism*

**C. Teaching Experience at Elizabethtown College**

<b>Semester</b>	<b>Course Title</b>	<b>Enrollment</b>	<b>IDEA Evaluation (Adjusted Summary)</b>	
<b>Fall 2000</b>	Asian Religions (A)	24	61	(Top 30-10%)
	Asian Religions (B)	25	59	(Top 30-10%)
	Forms of Religious Experience	27	64	(Top 10%)
<b>Spring 2001</b>	Asian Religions (A)	25	63	(Top 10%)
	Asian Religions (B)	25	63	(Top 10%)
	Asian Religions (C)	24	61	(Top 30-10%)
	Asian Philosophies	11	63	(Top 10%)
<b>May 2001</b>	Asian Religions	6	Not evaluated.	
<b>Summer 01</b>	Asian Religions	6	Not evaluated.	
<b>Fall 2001</b>	Asian Religions I (A)	25	62	(Top 30-10%)
	Asian Religions I (B)	25	57	(Top 30-10%)
	Asian Philosophies	16	55	(Middle 40%)
	FY Seminar: Death & Immortality	18	Not evaluated.	
	Forms of Religious Experience	35	61	(Top 30-10%)
	Honors Forms of Religious Experience	4	63	(Top 10%)
	Introductory Sanskrit I	2	Not evaluated.	
	<b>Spring 2002</b>	Asian Religions II (A)	25	64
Asian Religions II (B)		25	56	(Top 30-10%)
Religion and Violence		16	61	(Top 30-10%)
Introductory Sanskrit II		1	Not evaluated.	

	Independent Studies	2	Not evaluated.
	JSC: Krishna, Buddha, Christ [team taught]	17	61 (Top 30-10%)
<b>Summer 02</b>	Mythology Through Tolkien [Oxford Summer Program]	11	Not evaluated.
<b>Fall 2002</b>	Asian Religions I (A)	25	61 (Top 30-10%)
	Asian Religions I (B)	25	56 (Top 30-10%)
	Forms of Religious Experience	35	56 (Top 30-10%)
	Intermediate Sanskrit I	1	Not evaluated.
	FYS: How Do You Know? [team taught]	16	50 (Middle 40%)
	Independent Study	1	Not evaluated.
<b>Spring 2003</b>	Asian Religions II (A)	25	58 (Top 30-10%)
	Asian Religions II (B)	25	55 (Middle 40%)
	Asian Philosophies	11	59 (Top 30-10%)
	Tolkien	37	55 (Middle 40%)
	Intermediate Sanskrit II	1	Not evaluated.
<b>Summer 03</b>	Mythology Through Tolkien [Oxford Summer Program]	6	Not evaluated.
<b>Fall 2003</b>	Religions of South Asia (A)	36	57 (Top 30-10%)
	Religions of South Asia (B)	34	57 (Top 30-10%)
	Introductory Sanskrit I	6	66 (Top 10%)
<b>Spring 2004</b>	Religions of East Asia (A)	24	57 (Top 30-10%)
	Religions of East Asia (B)	25	59 (Top 30-10%)
	Religion and Violence	33	58 (Top 30-10%)
<b>Spring 2004</b>	Introductory Sanskrit II	3	52 (Middle 40%)
<b>Fall 2004</b>	Religions of South Asia (A)	31	57 (Top 30-10%)
	Religions of South Asia (B)	30	59 (Top 30-10%)
	Introductory Sanskrit I	18	59 (Top 30-10%)

Honors FY Seminar: A Hindu Jesus? Hindu			
	Interpretations of Christ and Christianity	7	57 (Top 30-10%)
	Honors Leadership Development [team taught]	21	Not evaluated
	Independent Study	1	Not evaluated.
	Senior Thesis	1	Not evaluated.
<b>Spring 2005</b>	Religions of East Asia	34	58 (Top 30-10%)
	Religions of China & Japan	6	60 (Top 30-10%)
<b>Summer 05</b>	Mythology through Tolkien	4	Not evaluated.
<b>Fall 2005</b>	Religions of South Asia	35	59 (Top 30-10%)
	Senior Thesis	2	Not evaluated.
<b>Spring 2006</b>	Religions of East Asia	35	64 (Top 10%)
	Introductory Sanskrit II	7	60 (Top 30-10%)
	Senior Thesis	2	Not evaluated.
<hr/> <b>(Tenure &amp; Promotion to Associate Professor)</b> <hr/>			
<b>Fall 2006</b>	Hinduism	25	59 (Top 30-10%)
	Buddhism	25	63 (Top 10%)
	Introductory Sanskrit I	18	61 (Top 30-10%)
<b>Spring 2007</b>	Hinduism	25	61 (Top 30-10%)
	Buddhism	25	56 (Top 30-10%)
	Introductory Sanskrit II	4	Not evaluated.
<b>Fall 2007</b>	Hinduism	25	56 (Top 30-10%)
	Buddhism	25	55 (Middle 40%)
	Hinduism & Modernity	10	74 (Top 10%)
	Intermediate Sanskrit I	5	Not evaluated.
<b>Spring 2008</b>	Hinduism	25	58 (Top 30-10%)
	Indian Philosophy	10	68 (Top 10%)
	Intermediate Sanskrit II	4	Not evaluated.



	Senior Thesis	1	Not evaluated.
<b>Fall 2008</b>	Hinduism	27	60 (Top 30-10%)
	Buddhism	24	62 (Top 30-10%)
	Sanskrit I	9	65 (Top 10%)
	Senior Thesis	1	Not evaluated.
<b>Spring 2009</b>	Hinduism	25	60 (Top 30-10%)
	Buddhism	25	61 (Top 30-10%)
	Sanskrit II	5	68 (Top 10%)
<b>Fall 2009</b>	Indic Religions	21	62 (Top 30-10%)
	Buddhism	35	60 (Top 30-10%)
<b>Spring 2010</b>	Indic Religions	31	63 (Top 10%)
	Senior Thesis	2	Not evaluated.
<b>Fall 2010</b>	Buddhism	34	56 (Top 30-10%)
	Sanskrit I	5	50 (Middle 40%)
<b>Spring 2011</b>	Indic Religions	35	
	Buddhism	35	
	Religion in China & Japan	11	
	Sanskrit II	4	
<b>Fall 2011</b>	Dharma Traditions (A)		
	Dharma Traditions (B)		
<b>Spring 2012</b>	Dharma Traditions		
	Hinduism & Modernity		
	Comparative Theology or Jainism		