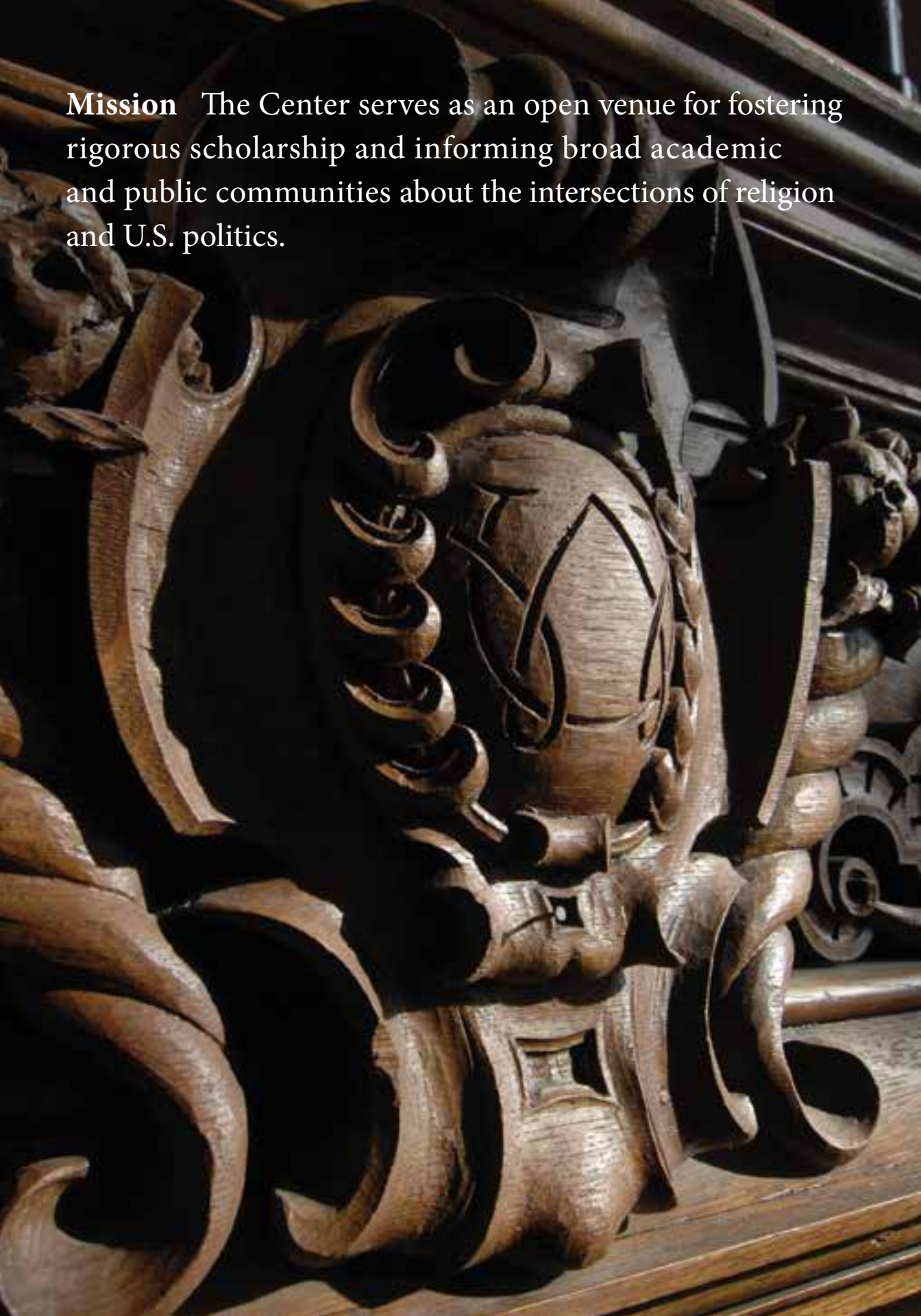




# John C. Danforth Center on Religion and Politics

*Annual Report 2013-2014*





**Mission** The Center serves as an open venue for fostering rigorous scholarship and informing broad academic and public communities about the intersections of religion and U.S. politics.

**John C. Danforth Center  
on Religion and Politics**

*Annual Report 2013-2014*

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## Founding

“Few issues are more critical to the well being of a democracy than how religious beliefs – or the denial of such beliefs – coexist with civic virtue and of how the ‘truths’ of the one are made compatible with the toleration and good will required by the other.”

Senator John C. Danforth



# Letter from the Chancellor



Now in its fourth year, the John C. Danforth Center on Religion and Politics continues to play a vital role at Washington University by serving as an ideologically diverse venue in which to explore the intersection of religion and United States politics. It does this by fostering rigorous scholarship, informing the community on relevant and timely issues, and encouraging civil debate and discussion on those issues. In each year of its existence, the Center has increased its accomplishments and enhanced its stature. The past year was no exception.

A new faculty member, Professor Laurie Maffly-Kipp, began her appointment at the Center in 2013-14. Our scholars visited 38 research centers throughout the world to learn about new initiatives and establish collaborative partnerships. Two PhD candidates received “Dissertation Completion Fellowships” and contributed to the Center by organizing events that broadened our public and scholarly engagement. This fellowship program will be continued next year with two new fellowships being awarded. The addition of new faculty has increased the course offerings at the Center

from 7 to 10, and we now have the first cohort of undergraduate students registered for the new “Religion and Politics” minor.

In the past year, the Center hosted over 800 community members through a range of outstanding programs by noted experts in their fields. These have included the Danforth Distinguished Lecture Series and The Colloquium on American Religion, Politics, and Culture, a community-building workshop that will be offered again next year, after its very successful second year. Some of the topical issues covered in other programs this past year included: immigration, secularization in modern America, and an examination of the historical and contemporary intertwining of religion and politics through the lens of various disciplines, including anthropology, sociology, law, history, and art. The online news journal *Religion & Politics*, with its byline “Fit for Polite Company,” celebrated another notable year and won a Webby Award nomination in the Best Religion and Spirituality category.

Clearly, the Center is one of our University’s greatest assets. Under the direction of Professor R. Marie Griffith and her extraordinary staff, the Center educates, collaborates, and brings our community together with a common purpose. We thank Senator John C. Danforth and the Danforth Foundation for helping to establish a place without divisiveness, where we can move forward in understanding the complex issues of our world. We are grateful to everyone who participates in the Center’s activities and generously supports its efforts.

Mark S. Wrighton  
Chancellor

# Letter from the Center Director

We have completed another exciting and busy year at the John C. Danforth Center on Religion and Politics.

A new senior faculty member, Laurie Maffly-Kipp, joined us as a Distinguished Professor, moving here from the University of North Carolina, where she chaired the Department of Religious Studies. Rachel Lindsey, a newly minted PhD from Princeton University, became the Center’s Associate Director.

We also have invested great care and resources this year in continued search for other remarkable individuals and we look forward to welcoming new faculty and fellows this summer. I invite you to read more about them beginning on page 44.

Our undergraduate curriculum in religion and politics grew and flourished this year, and we attracted our first “minors” in the program. We chose to support graduate education by developing competitive dissertation fellowships and we were delighted to receive into the life of the Center our first two fellows this year.

Our *Religion & Politics* journal reached more readers than ever before and received notable awards this year. More about the remarkable work being done and a list of featured articles can be found on page 36.

As I have noted before, we expect and intend for both our educational and public offerings to reflect diverse and divergent viewpoints. We invite speakers (and journal writers) from across political, religious, and ideological realms. More than anything, we expect our speakers to shed more light than heat on the religious and political issues that have fostered divisions in the U.S., both in the past and in the present.



We hosted the first Danforth Distinguished Lecture Series in November, featuring the distinguished UC Berkeley historian David Hollinger; sponsored a major public lecture by Yale Law School’s Judge Guido Calabresi in February; and held our first major multi-day conference in March. Our events explored varied aspects in the broad realm of our concern and invited diverse and renowned voices to collaborate on meaningful interventions.

Nothing we do would be possible without the concrete support of our growing number of donors, all of whom we have listed at the end of this report. Since the founding gift from the Danforth Foundation and the example of Senator John C. Danforth, other gifts have increased our endowment and enabled us to do still more to increase the resources and possibilities of this innovative Center. To those who have given generously and sacrificially to the Center, know that we will use these gifts wisely and well.

R. Marie Griffith  
Director





## Leading

Our Commitments:

Supporting and enhancing outstanding scholarly research on the historical and contemporary intertwining of religion and politics.

Disseminating excellent scholarship to students and the broad public by means of courses, lectures, conferences, and publications.

Fostering debate and discussion among people who hold widely different views about religion and politics.



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# Faculty Director

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## R. Marie Griffith

R. Marie Griffith, the John C. Danforth Distinguished Professor in the Humanities at Washington University in St. Louis, is currently the director of the John C. Danforth Center on Religion and Politics.

Professor Griffith earned her undergraduate degree at the University of Virginia in Political and Social Thought in 1989. She completed both her MA and PhD in the study of religion at Harvard University. Upon earning her doctorate in 1995, she was awarded consecutive fellowships at both Princeton University and Northwestern University. In 1999, she joined the faculty at Princeton where she filled several roles. From 1999–2003, she was associate director of Princeton’s Center for the Study of Religion. In 2003, she became associate professor of religion and was promoted to professor in 2005. She was later named the director for the Program in the Study of Women and Gender. While at Princeton, Griffith was awarded the President’s Award for Distinguished Teaching, along with the Cotsen Fellowship for Distinguished Teaching in 2008. She returned to her alma mater, Harvard University, in 2009 as the John A. Bartlett

Professor in the Divinity School, serving as well on the faculty committee for the History of American Civilization program in the Faculty of Arts and Sciences.

Her first major publication was *God’s Daughters: Evangelical Women and the Power of Submission* (University of California Press, 1997), which examines the practices and perceptions of contemporary evangelical women. Her next book, *Born Again Bodies: Flesh and Spirit in American Christianity* (University of California Press, 2004), explores the history of Christian-influenced attitudes and practices related to embodiment in modern America, culminating in the evangelical diet and fitness movement. These books, along with her three edited volumes—*Women and Religion in the African Diaspora: Knowledge, Power, and Performance* (co-edited with Barbara Dianne Savage, Johns Hopkins University Press, 2006), *Religion and Politics in the Contemporary United States* (co-edited with Melani McAlister, Johns Hopkins University Press, 2008), and *American Religions: A Documentary History* (Oxford University Press, 2007)—exhibit Griffith’s varied and thoughtful scholarship.

She is finishing a book about sexuality debates in twentieth-century American Christianity titled *Christians, Sex and Politics: An American History*. In addition to her books, Professor Griffith has published numerous articles, book chapters, and reviews.

Professor Griffith has traveled extensively in 2013-14, discussing a range of issues and developing collaborations with various institutions. She spoke at the University of Virginia, University of Michigan, Brown, Rice, Yale, Amherst, Boston College, Eden Seminary, LDS Church Headquarters, and Fudan University in Shanghai, among others.

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# Faculty

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## Darren T. Dochuk

Darren Dochuk joined the John C. Danforth Center on Religion and Politics in 2012 as Associate Professor in the Humanities.

Dochuk earned his BA from Simon Fraser University and his MA from Queen’s University in Canada before completing his PhD at the University of Notre Dame. Between 2005 and 2012, he taught courses in twentieth century U.S. political and cultural history at Purdue University in West Lafayette, Indiana.

In 2011, Dochuk published *From Bible Belt to Sunbelt: Plain-folk Religion, Grassroots Politics, and the Rise of Evangelical Conservatism* (W.W. Norton), which tracks the emergence of evangelical politics from the margins of the Depression-era “Bible Belt” South into the mainstream of California’s “Sunbelt” society. It garnered a number of awards, including The Society of American Historians’ Allan Nevins Prize, American Historical Association’s John H. Dunning book prize for outstanding historical writing on any subject in U.S. history, and The Organization of American Historians’ Ellis W. Hawley prize for best book in post-Civil War U.S. political history.

Dochuk also co-edited a collection of essays called *Sunbelt Rising: The Politics of Space, Place, and Region* (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2011) and he has published essays in several edited collections and journals, as well as received extensive research support from a number of organizations, most recently the American Council of Learned Societies, National Endowment for the Humanities, American Philosophical Society, The Rockefeller Foundation, and the Canadian government.

Dochuk was invited to teach a June 2014 seminar in China, which drew together thirty-five professors and graduate students from twenty major Chinese universities. During the spring of 2013, he was the inaugural Bill & Rita Clements Senior Research Fellow for the Study of Southwestern America at Southern Methodist University. Also in 2013, Dochuk was named a Distinguished Lecturer for the Organization of American Historians’ (OAH) Distinguished Lectureship Program.

Dochuk is currently working on a book project tentatively titled *Anointed With Oil: God and Black Gold in America’s Century*. It charts evangelical Protestantism’s longstanding (and politically significant) relationship with the petroleum industry. He is also involved in a number of collaborative initiatives, including a symposium and collection of essays that examine religion during Barack Obama’s presidency.



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## Faculty (*cont'd*)



### Mark D. Jordan

Mark Jordan was appointed the Reverend Priscilla Wood Neaves Distinguished Professor of Religion and Politics in the Center in 2012. A philosopher, ethicist, and theologian, he formerly served as Richard Reinhold Niebuhr Professor of Divinity and Professor of Studies of Women, Gender, and Sexuality at Harvard University. He had taught earlier at the University of Notre Dame and Emory University.

Jordan earned his BA, *summa cum laude*, from St. John's College (Annapolis and Santa Fe) and his MA and PhD from the University of Texas at Austin. His doctoral training was in pre-modern European thought, and he has since published widely on medieval Christian texts. Jordan's work has turned more recently to religious ethics in the modern period, particularly in the United States. His recent writing and teaching pursue questions about the interactions of political and religious rhetoric, the history of sex and gender in America, and the functions of ritual in creating new identities. At the Center, he has taught a range of courses on such topics as the uses of natural law, recent theories of political and religious power, and the intellectual history of sex and gender.

Jordan's many books include *The Invention of Sodomy in Christian Theology* (University of Chicago Press, 1997), which won the 1999 John Boswell Prize in Lesbian and Gay History; *The Ethics of Sex* (Basil Blackwell, 2002); *Telling Truths in Church: Scandal, Flesh, and Christian Speech* (Beacon Press, 2003); *Rewritten Theology: Aquinas after His Readers* (Basil Blackwell, 2006); and *Recruiting Young Love: How Christians Talk about Homosexuality* (University of Chicago Press, 2011), which received the 2012 nonfiction book award from the Publishing Triangle. He has just finished a book on religion and bodily resistance in the writings of Michel Foucault, to be published by Stanford University Press in 2014. His next project reinterprets the structure of Thomas Aquinas's *Summa of Theology* as a guide to forgotten patterns of Christian moral formation.

Professor Jordan has received numerous fellowships and grants from organizations that include the John S. Guggenheim Memorial Foundation, the Carpenter Foundation, the Ford Foundation, and the Henry Luce Foundation. He has held visiting appointments at a number of schools, including the Pontifical Institute of Mediaeval Studies and the Centre for Medieval Studies at the University of Toronto. He has lectured in academic and public settings in North America and Europe.



### Laurie Maffly-Kipp

Laurie Maffly-Kipp arrived in St. Louis in July 2013 to join the John C. Danforth Center on Religion and Politics as a Distinguished Professor in the Humanities.

Maffly-Kipp's research and teaching focus on African American religions, Mormonism, and religion in transnational contexts. This past year she has given talks to audiences at UC Berkeley, Claremont Graduate University, the University of Virginia, as well as to several international historical societies. She and Center Director Marie Griffith also delivered lectures in April 2014 to a group of graduate students and scholars at the Center for American Studies and Department of International Politics at Fudan University in Shanghai, China.

Maffly-Kipp's publications are many and include: *Religion and Society in Frontier California* (Yale University Press, 1994), where she explored the nature of Protestant spiritual practices in Gold Rush California; articles on Mormon-Protestant conflicts in the Pacific Islands, African Americans in Haiti and Africa, and Protestant outreach to Chinese immigrants in California; a volume of

essays entitled *Practicing Protestants: Histories of Christian Life in America, 1630-1965* (Johns Hopkins University Press, 2006) with Leigh Schmidt and Mark Valeri; a co-edited collection of essays about Mormonism in the Pacific World, *Proclamation to the People: Nineteenth-Century Mormonism and the Pacific Basin Frontier*, (University of Utah press, 2008). Most recently she authored *Setting Down the Sacred Past: African-American Race Histories* (Harvard University Press, 2010); *American Scriptures*, a Penguin Classics anthology of sacred texts (Penguin, 2010); and *Women's Work*, a co-edited collection of writings by African American women historians (Oxford University Press, 2010). Currently she is working on a survey of Mormonism in American life that will be published by Basic Books.

Prior to coming to the Danforth Center, Maffly-Kipp taught at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill in Religious Studies and American Studies for twenty-four years. She earned her BA from Amherst College in English and Religion, *summa cum laude*, and completed the PhD in American History at Yale University (1990). She is the recipient of numerous fellowships and grants, including a grant for a collaborative project on the History of Christian Practice from the Lilly Endowment, Inc., fellowships at the National Humanities Center, and an NEH Fellowship for University Professors.

Professor Maffly-Kipp was the 2014 recipient of the James W.C. Pennington Award of the Heidelberg Center for American Studies and the Faculty of Theology of Heidelberg University, which included a month-long stay as a visiting professor and lecturer.



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## Faculty (*cont'd*)



### Leigh Eric Schmidt

Leigh Eric Schmidt is the Edward C. Mallinckrodt University Professor in the Humanities at Washington University in St. Louis. He joined the John C. Danforth Center on Religion and Politics in 2011.

From 2009 to 2011, he was the Charles Warren Professor of the History of Religion in America at Harvard University, and, from 1995 to 2009, he taught at Princeton University where he was the Agate Brown and George L. Collord Professor of Religion and served as chair of the Department of Religion. He has held research fellowships at Stanford and Princeton and also through the National Endowment for the Humanities, the American Council of Learned Societies, the American Philosophical Society, and the Guggenheim Foundation. Schmidt earned his undergraduate degree in history and religious studies from the University of California, Riverside, in 1983 and his PhD in religion from Princeton in 1987.

Schmidt is the author of numerous books, including *Hearing Things: Religion, Illusion, and the American Enlightenment* (Harvard University Press, 2000), which won the American Academy of Religion Award for Excellence in Historical Studies and the John Hope Franklin Prize of the American Studies Association. He is also the author of *Restless Souls: The Making of American Spirituality* (HarperOne, 2005), which appeared in an updated edition from the University of California Press in 2012; *Consumer Rites: The Buying and Selling of American Holidays* (Princeton University Press, 1995); and *Holy Fairs: Scottish Communion and American Revivals in the Early Modern Period* (Princeton, 1989), which received the Brewer Prize from the American Society of Church History. In addition, Schmidt has served as co-editor with Sally Promey of *American Religious Liberalism* (Indiana University Press, 2012), co-editor with Laurie Maffly-Kipp and Mark Valeri of *Practicing Protestants: Histories of the Christian Life in America* (Johns Hopkins University Press, 2006), and co-author with Edwin Scott Gaustad of *The Religious History of America* (HarperOne, 2002). Schmidt's latest single-authored book is *Heaven's Bride: The Unprintable Life of Ida C. Craddock, American Mystic, Scholar, Sexologist, Martyr, and Madwoman* (Basic Books, 2010).

His next book project explores how atheism and nonbelief have fared historically in American public life.

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## Associate Director



### Rachel M. Lindsey

Rachel Lindsey joined the Center as Associate Director, effective July 1, 2013. In this position, Lindsey directs undergraduate studies, in which she has direct oversight of the Center's curricular developments, the minor in religion and politics, undergraduate advising, and student programming. She also manages the Center's operations, coordinates programming, and contributes to Center planning.

Lindsey earned the BA from Missouri State University in 2006 and the PhD from Princeton University in 2012. She is an historian who has teaching and research interests in politics and practices of representation in American media, legal, and religious histories. She teaches courses on religion in American history, introduction to world religions, material culture studies of American religion, media and technology in American religious history, and religion and politics in American history.

Her current book project, *A Communion of Shadows: Vernacular Photography and Religion in Nineteenth-Century America*, explores the incorporation of innovative visual technologies into American visual habits, mourning practices, self-definitions, and biblical sensibilities from 1839 through the turn of the twentieth century. Her work approaches photographs as material artifacts that require attention to their circumstances of production, circulation, and beholding as well as the visual field within the compositional frame. Her work has appeared in *The Bulletin for the Study of Religion*, *The Journal of Africana Religions*, and *Religion & Politics*, and she is a contributor to the professional blog Religion in American History.

Lindsey received an Andrew C. Mellon Dissertation Completion Fellowship in 2011-2012, and she taught in the religion department at Florida State University before coming to Washington University in St. Louis. She is a Research Affiliate with the Initiative for the Study of Material and Visual Cultures of Religion at Yale University and chair of the Material and Sensory Cultures of Religion section of the Midwest American Academy of Religion.



# Postdoctoral Fellows



Anne Blankenship

Anne Blankenship completed a two-year residency with the Center as a postdoctoral fellow in 2013-14. She offered two independent study courses and she co-taught with Center Director Marie Griffith the survey course, Religion & American Society.

Blankenship’s research focuses on religious responses to injustice and associations between national, ethnic, and religious identities. She earned her PhD at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 2012, her MA from Yale Divinity School, and a BA from the University of Puget Sound in Tacoma, WA.

Her recently completed book manuscript, *Complicating the Civil Rights Movement: Christian Responses to the Incarceration of Japanese Americans*, reveals how the World War II incarceration challenged religious, racial, and civic boundaries within American Christianity.

After a summer in New York City as a Coolidge Fellow, she will begin a position as Visiting Assistant Professor at Central Washington University.



Lerone A. Martin

Lerone Martin joined the John C. Danforth Center on Religion and Politics as a postdoctoral fellow for the 2013-14 academic year. He taught the undergraduate course, Religion and the African American Experience: A Historical Survey and was a participant in the Center’s colloquium.

Martin earned his BA from Anderson University in Anderson, IN, and his MDiv from Princeton Theological Seminary before completing his PhD at Emory University in 2011. From 2010-2013, Martin was Assistant Professor of American Religious History and Culture at Eden Theological Seminary in Saint Louis, MO.

His first book project, *Preaching on Wax: The Phonograph and the Making of Modern African American Religion* (New York University Press, 2014) will be released in fall 2014.

Martin will join the faculty at the Center as an Assistant Professor of Religion and Politics on July 1, 2014.

# Dissertation Fellows

2013-14 was the inaugural year for the Center’s competitive Dissertation Fellowship program. Fellows spend the academic year in residence at the Center with most of their time devoted to dissertation research and writing. They also contribute to the Center’s intellectual life by participating in our colloquium and organizing an event, as decided in consultation with the faculty.



Rachel Gross

Rachel Gross is a PhD candidate in the Department of Religion at Princeton University. Her dissertation, “Objects of Affection: The Material Religion of American Jewish Nostalgia,” claims nostalgia as an integral religious feature of American Jewish identity politics in the latter half of the twentieth century and into the twenty-first century. Gross organized a panel discussion, “Food, Religion, and Politics: Contemporary Issues in the U.S.” and taught a course on food and politics during her residency at the Center. She has accepted a position at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, VA, beginning in fall 2014.



Emily Johnson

Emily Johnson is a PhD candidate in the History Department at Yale University. Her dissertation, “Activists, Authors, Apostles: Women’s Leadership in the New Christian Right,” emphasizes the ways in which women’s national prominence was vital to the ascendancy of the modern religious right during the 1970s and 1980s. Among other contributions to the Center, Johnson organized “Religion and Sexual Revolutions,” a graduate student conference with public keynote lecture during her fellowship year. She has accepted a position at University of Tennessee, Knoxville beginning in fall 2014.

## Visiting Graduate Students, 2013-14



Sherrema Bower  
PhD candidate, University of Otago, Dunedin, New Zealand



Hannah L. Hofheinz  
ThD candidate in Theology at Harvard University

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## Staff

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### Debra B. Kennard

Debra Kennard serves as Communications Specialist, handling the Center's marketing, publicity, and multiple communications functions. She brings a wealth of communications, marketing, event management, and process improvement experience to her role. After earning a BA in journalism from Indiana University, she worked in advertising and marketing for J. Walter Thompson and GE Capital in Chicago, IL.



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### Sheri Peña

Sheri Peña joined the Center in December 2013. She comes to Washington University in St. Louis from Tower Grove Park, where she served as Office Manager and Administrative Assistant for sixteen years. She has broad administrative experience leading front and back office operations including executive support, human resources and payroll coordination, financial processing, and meeting planning.



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### Tiffany Stanley

Tiffany Stanley is Managing Editor of *Religion & Politics*, the John C. Danforth Center's online journal. She brings a strong background in the journalism and publishing world, as well as in religion and politics. Prior to coming to the Center, she worked for *The New Republic*, *Harvard magazine*, and *Religion News Service*. Her articles on religion and politics have appeared in, among other publications, *USA Today*, *The Daily Beast*, *The Christian Century*, and *The Salt Lake Tribune*. She holds a BA in Journalism and a BA in English from the University of Georgia, in addition to the MDiv from Harvard University.



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## Center Founders



### John C. Danforth

John C. Danforth, a partner with the law firm of Bryan Cave, developed the initial vision for the Center that is now named for him. He graduated with honors from Princeton University and earned a Bachelor of Divinity degree from Yale Divinity School and a Bachelor of Laws degree from Yale Law School. He practiced law for some years, then began his political career in 1968, when he was elected Attorney General of Missouri, his first race for public office. He was re-elected to that post in 1972. Missouri voters elected him to the U.S. Senate in 1976 and re-elected him in 1982 and 1988. Serving 18 years in the Senate, he initiated major legislation in the areas of international trade, telecommunications, health care, research & development, transportation, and civil rights. In 1999, Attorney General Janet Reno appointed him special counsel to investigate the federal raid on the Branch Davidian compound in Waco, Texas. In 2004, he represented the United States as U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations, and served as a Special Envoy to Sudan. He is the author of *Faith and Politics: How the "Moral Values" Debate Divides America and How to Move Forward Together* (Viking, 2006).



### Wayne Fields

Wayne Fields, the Lynne Cooper Harvey Distinguished Professor of English, is the Center's founding director. He joined the English department at Washington University as an instructor in 1968, and he has since served as chair of the Department of English, dean of University College, and director of that same college's Master of Liberal Arts program. He helped establish the American Culture Studies program in 1996, and functioned as its Director until 2008; and he chaired the Democracy and Citizenship Initiative from 2008-2010. Fields is an accomplished author and frequent commentator on the subject of political rhetoric. His writings include *Union of Words: A History of Presidential Eloquence* (The Free Press, 1996); *What the River Knows: An Angler in Midstream* (University of Chicago Press, 1990); *The Past Leads a Life of Its Own* (Poseidon Press, 1992); and several essays. Fields has also served as a radio and television commentator and magazine columnist. He has received various teaching awards and fellowships.



# National Advisory Board

The National Advisory Board is a group of distinguished representatives from the fields of American religion, politics, and journalism. This Board helps the Center have the greatest possible impact on current discussions relating to religion’s long role in U.S. politics.



**Jon Meacham (Chair)**  
Executive Editor, Random House



**Thomas O. Bean**  
Partner, Verrill Dana LLP



**David L. Boren**  
Former United States Senator from Oklahoma; President, University of Oklahoma



**David Brooks**  
Author and opinion writer, *The New York Times*



**John C. Danforth**  
Former United States Senator from Missouri; Partner, law firm of Bryan Cave LLP



**Gerald Early**  
Merle Kling Professor of Modern Letters, Washington University in St. Louis



**Jean Bethke Elshtain**  
The University of Chicago  
*In Memoriam 1941-2013*



**Michael Gerson**  
Journalist and opinion writer, *The Washington Post*



**Sarah Barringer Gordon**  
Professor of Constitutional Law and Professor of History, University of Pennsylvania



**Joel C. Hunter**  
Senior Pastor, Northland, A Church Distributed



**Charles R. Marsh**  
Professor of Religious Studies, University of Virginia



**John T. McGreevy**  
I.A. O’Shaughnessy Dean of the College of Arts and Letters; Professor of History, University of Notre Dame



**Eboo Patel**  
Founder and President, Interfaith Youth Core



**Barbara D. Savage**  
Professor of American Social Thought and Professor of History, University of Pennsylvania



**Barbara A. Schaal**  
Dean of the Faculty of Arts & Sciences, Washington University in St. Louis



**Alan K. Simpson**  
Former United States Senator from Wyoming; Co-Chairman, National Commission on Fiscal Responsibility and Reform



**Mary Stillman**  
Lawyer and Lecturer in Political Science, Washington University in St. Louis



**Roberto Suro**  
Professor of Journalism and Public Policy, University of Southern California



**Holden Thorp**  
Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, Washington University in St. Louis



**Krista Tippett**  
Host and Producer, “On Being” Radio Program, American Public Media



**William G. Tragos**  
Co-Founder and Former Chairman, TBWA Worldwide

# Washington University

## Executive Committee

The Executive Committee consists of Washington University faculty who advise the Center on matters of programming and resource allocation.



**Iver Bernstein**

Professor of History and Director of the American Culture Studies Program

Iver Bernstein, Professor of History and Director of the American Culture Studies Program, is a historian of the nineteenth-century United States. He earned his BA from Brown University and his PhD from Yale. He is the author of *The New York City Draft Riots: Their Significance for American Society and Politics in the Age of the Civil War* (1991, 2010). His current book project, to be published by Oxford University Press, is *Stripes & Scars: Race, The Revitalization of America, and the Origins of the Civil War*. He has held fellowships from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the American Council of Learned Societies, among others.



**Daniel Bornstein**

Stella K. Darrow Professor of Catholic Studies, Professor of History and Religious Studies

Daniel Bornstein is the Stella K. Darrow Professor of Catholic Studies, Professor of History and Religious Studies. A specialist in the religious culture of medieval Europe, particularly Italy, he has written extensively on lay piety, popular devotional movements, religious confraternities, female sanctity, parish priests, civic religion, and other intersections of the spiritual and material worlds. He is the author and editor of several publications including *The Bianchi of 1399: Popular Devotion in Late Medieval Italy* (1994), and is the editor of *Medieval Christianity* (the fourth volume of the seven-volume *People’s History of Christianity*, 2010). He has translated numerous texts and has held several fellowships from the American Philosophical Society and the National Endowment for the Humanities, among others.



**Randall Calvert**

Thomas F. Eagleton University Professor of Public Affairs and Political Science

Randall Calvert is the Thomas F. Eagleton University Professor of Public Affairs and Political Science. His interests revolve around the application of game theory to the understanding of political institutions, such as legislative parties and constitutions. More generally, his research and teaching fields include positive political theory, American political institutions, and constitutional politics. He is the author of *Models of Imperfect Information in Politics* (1986), and of journal articles in the *American Political Science Review*, the *American Journal of Political Science*, and elsewhere. His current teaching and research focus on strategic processes of political communication and political argument in American constitutional development.



**Adrienne Davis**

Vice Provost and William M. Van Cleve Professor of Law

Adrienne Davis is Vice Provost of Washington University and the William M. Van Cleve Professor in the School of Law. A graduate of Yale Law School, she has been on the faculty of the University of San Francisco School of Law; American University’s Washington College of Law, where she was co-director of the Gender, Work & Family Project; and the University of North Carolina School of Law. Davis’ scholarship focuses on gender and race relations, theories of justice and reparations, feminist legal theory, and law and popular culture. She has written extensively on the legal dimensions of American slavery and is the co-editor of the book, *Privilege Revealed: How Invisible Preference Undermines America* (1996).



**John Inazu**

Associate Professor of Law and Associate Professor of Political Science

John Inazu is Associate Professor in the School of Law and Associate Professor of Political Science in Arts & Sciences. His scholarship focuses on the First Amendment freedoms of speech, assembly, and religion, and related questions of legal and political theory. His first book, *Liberty’s Refuge: The Forgotten Freedom of Assembly* (2012), seeks to recover the role of assembly in American political and constitutional thought. Professor Inazu’s work is also published or forthcoming in *Cornell Law Review*, *Hastings Law Journal*, and *Law and Contemporary Problems*, among others. Prior to joining the law faculty, Professor Inazu was a visiting assistant professor at Duke University School of Law and a Royster Fellow at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.



**Andrew Rehfeld**

Associate Professor of Political Science; President and CEO, Jewish Federation of St. Louis

Andrew Rehfeld is Associate Professor of Political Science and Professor of Law (by courtesy). He was selected in June 2012, to be president and chief executive officer for the Jewish Federation of St. Louis. His research focuses on contemporary democratic theory with related interests in the history of political thought and the philosophy of the social sciences. His first book, *The Concept of Constituency* (2005), provides a conceptual, historical, and normative analysis of territorial districting. Rehfeld’s current book project is titled *A General Theory of Political Representation*. His articles and reviews have also appeared in the *Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*, *Studies in American Political Development*, and elsewhere.



**Rebecca Wanzo**

Associate Professor of Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies and Associate Director, Center for Humanities

Rebecca Wanzo is Associate Professor of Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies and Associate Director, Center for Humanities. Her first book, *The Suffering Will Not Be Televised: African American Women and Sentimental Political Storytelling* (2009), examines the stories citizens must tell to make their suffering legible to the state and various other communities. Her research interests include popular culture, critical race theory, and black feminist theory. She is currently working on projects about radical feminist comix in the 1970s, the history of popular media in the United States, African American graphic storytelling, and legal and popular understandings of the relationship between civil rights law and time.





## Engaging

“Because of my Religion and Politics minor, I will graduate with a more practical take on religion in society. As a Religious Studies major, my emphasis has been largely theoretical, but the Center has taught me to ground my work in actual events and experiences. My concern for advocacy and activism has grown exponentially since working with the Center, because I can move beyond thinking about religion to examining its relationship within and across political communities.”

Maggie Ingell,  
Class of 2014



# Academics

## Courses

As a curricular program located in a research center rather than an academic department, coursework in Religion and Politics provides a foundation and structure for students to engage in original scholarship at all levels of instruction. Individual courses cover a wide spectrum of topics. The collective focus of the curriculum is the cultivation of research and interpretive skills necessary for analyzing and responding to issues that shape public and private life in the United States.

### Courses offered in 2013-14:

- Religion and American Society (Griffith/Blankenship)
- Religion and Politics in 20th Century U.S. History (Dochuk)
- Natural Law (Jordan)
- Religion and Violence (Blankenship)
- Religion in the African American Experience: A Historical Survey (Martin)
- Food Fights: The Politics of American Jewish Consumption, 1890-2014 (Gross)
- Politics of Representation and American Religion: Media, Technology, and Display (Lindsey)
- Mormonism and the American Experience (Maffly-Kipp)
- Religion and the Politics of Place in Modern America (Dochuk)
- Religion and the State: Global Mission, Global Empire (Maffly-Kipp)



Prof. Laurie Maffly-Kipp instructs on “Mormonism and the American Experience.”



Graduate students discuss “Religion and the Politics of Place in Modern America.”



Students in Prof. Maffly-Kipp's class make formal presentations.

## Undergraduate Minor in Religion and Politics

First offered in 2013-14, the religion and politics minor is an interdisciplinary program that combines resources from the Center on Religion and Politics with relevant offerings from other academic programs. As part of the program, students may examine any number of issues, including church-state relations, religion’s role in shaping gender and sexuality debates, religion and electoral politics, public conflicts over the nexus of religion and science, and religion’s entwining with reform movements. Students are also encouraged to pursue an optional semester of study in Washington, D.C.



Ola Abiose, Jack West, Megan Gregory, Erica Beach, Aubrey Richards



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# Academics

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## Colloquium

The Center holds a colloquium twice a month to foster discussion of new scholarship in the broad domain of American Religion, Politics, and Culture. Focusing on student and faculty research projects, it has become a lively gathering place for doctoral students, postdoctoral fellows, advanced undergraduates, and allied faculty. Our intellectual community includes participants from Saint Louis University and the University of Missouri-St. Louis, as well as those from a wide variety of disciplines at Washington University.

“As a young adult, religion and politics are personal and often unchallenged. Yet as a student enters college, personal affiliations are questioned with new ideas and new people. One’s notion of truth is threatened. During a time of personal development away from family life, academic and unbiased resources on religion and politics are integral to finding one’s footing on campus and questioning and reasserting personal truths in a safe environment. The Danforth Center is a place for students to contextualize their personal experiences and develop a deeper understanding of how religion and politics frame their lives, as well as others.”

*Erica Beach, Class of 2014*

“The Center has honestly been one of the most exciting, dynamic places at which I’ve worked, and I think it’s because the intersection of religion and politics brings together such a wide range of interests, disciplines, and theoretical backgrounds. I’ve had such engaging conversations with just about everyone at the Center, and each person contributes a unique lens and perspective to the discussion.”

*Ola Abiose, Class of 2014*



Graduating seniors Ola Abiose, Maggie Ingell, and Erica Beach



Top: Students in “Food Fights: The Politics of American Jewish Consumption 1890-2014.” / Bottom: Students in Prof. Martin’s class engage their teacher.





# Public Events

Our public events offer an important way to meet our commitment to engage scholarship that explores the intersections of religion and politics. It allows us to disseminate that scholarship to an audience that reaches beyond the university community, as well as to foster the debate and discussion between individuals with truly diverse viewpoints in a civil manner.

We sponsor a variety of engagements including public lectures, conferences, and symposia, as well as more intimate gatherings to connect students and community members to renowned figures in a variety of disciplines.



28 John C. Danforth Center on Religion and Politics



SEPTEMBER 5, 2013

**U.S. Religion and Politics in Multidisciplinary Perspective**

A conference with Anthea Butler, University of Pennsylvania; Chris Garces, Cornell University; Sarah Barringer Gordon, University of Pennsylvania; Eric Gregory, Princeton University; Paul Gutjahr, Indiana University; Sally Promey, Yale University; Mark Valeri, Union Presbyterian Seminary; and Robert Wuthnow, Princeton University.

SEPTEMBER 12, 2013

**Center Open House and Faculty Reception**

SEPTEMBER 25, 2013

**Welcoming the Stranger: A Panel Discussion on Religion and Immigration**

Ruth Melkonian-Hoover, Gordon College; Richard Land, Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention; Ryan Fitzpatrick, Interfaith Legal Services for Immigrants; and Marilyn Lorenz, St. Louis Inter-Faith Committee on Latin America.



# Public Events

OCTOBER 21, 2013

## Concerning ‘Goodbye Christ’: Langston Hughes, Political Poetry, and African American Religion During the Interwar Period

Wallace Best, Princeton University

NOVEMBER 18-20, 2013

## Danforth Distinguished Lecture Series: Protestant Foreign Missions and Secularization in Modern America

David A. Hollinger,  
University of California, Berkeley

With Jon Butler, Yale University and the University of  
Minnesota, Twin Cities; Darren Dochuk, Washington  
University in St. Louis; and Molly Worthen, Univer-  
sity of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

FEBRUARY 27, 2014

## What About the Establishment Clause?

Guido Calabresi, Yale University, and Judge,  
U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit

MARCH 5, 2014

## Let the Record Play!: The Phonograph in the Making of Modern American Religion

Lerone Martin, Danforth Center on Religion  
and Politics at Washington University in St.  
Louis



MARCH 27-29, 2014

## Beyond the Culture Wars: Recasting Religion and Politics in the Twentieth Century

A conference with keynote lecture by James T.  
Kloppenber, Harvard University, “Barack  
Obama and the Paradoxes of Progressive  
Christianity.”

APRIL 8, 2014

## Food, Religion, and Politics: A Conversation on Contemporary Issues in the U.S.

A panel discussion moderated by Rachel Gross,  
Danforth Center on Religion and Politics, with  
Karen Adelman, Saul’s Deli; Jennifer R. Ayres,  
Emory University; Jason Fowler, Sustainable  
Traditions; Shmuly Yanklowitz, Uri L’Tzedek:  
The Orthodox Social Justice Movement; and  
Benjamin E. Zeller, Lake Forest College.

MAY 9, 2014

## Religion and Sexual Revolutions

A graduate student conference organized by  
Emily Johnson with keynote lecture by Rebecca  
Davis, University of Delaware, “Religion,  
Marriage, and Sexual Counterrevolutions.”



# Public Events

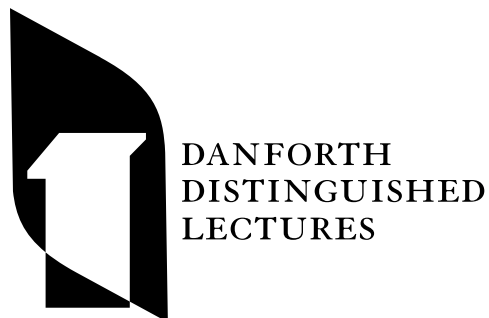
## Danforth Distinguished Lectures

A new endeavor of the Center, the Danforth Distinguished Lecture Series was implemented in 2013 by the John C. Danforth Center on Religion and Politics and Washington University in St. Louis to initiate and sustain an ongoing discussion about the multiple intersections of politics and religion in American public life, history, and culture.

The event combines a series of public lectures delivered by a distinguished scholar with campus discussions involving Washington University faculty, students, and invited guests whose own engagement with the subject of the lectures will provide added nuance to the subject and facilitate lively and informed dialogue.

The inaugural event was held in November 2013 and featured Professor David A. Hollinger, Preston Hotchkis Professor of American History at the University of California, Berkeley. Hollinger is a renowned scholar of American intellectual history whose recent research addresses the multiple interactions between liberal Protestantism and American cultural politics.

The event was titled, “Protestant Foreign Missions and Secularization in Modern America,” and included a symposium with three commentators who responded to Professor Hollinger’s first lecture: Jon Butler, Yale University; Darren Dochuk, Washington University in St. Louis; and Molly Worthen, University of North Carolina.



# Public Events

## Beyond the Culture Wars: Recasting Religion and Politics in the Twentieth Century

Measuring recent trends in study of the 20th Century, mapping new directions for scholarship in the 21st, this conference drew together leading historians from the United States and United Kingdom who were eager to cast fresh light on religion and politics in modern America. Their innovation will open up new ways of understanding populism and liberalism, urban crises and global turns, statecraft and environmental activism, and other pivotal turns in which faith and politics collaborated with surprising and profound effect.

The conference took place over three days and was anchored by a keynote address from James T. Kloppenberg, Harvard University. His lecture was entitled, “Barack Obama and the Paradoxes of Progressive Christianity.”



## Other featured speakers:

Lila Corwin Berman  
Tim Borstelmann  
Kate Bowler  
Kevin Boyle  
Mark Brilliant  
Kathleen Cummings  
Ben Francis-Fallon  
Healan Gaston  
Sarah Barringer Gordon  
Paul Harvey  
Kip Kosek  
Scott Kurashige  
Patrick Mason  
Melani McAlister  
Michelle Nickerson

Andrew Preston  
Charles Postel  
Adam Rome  
Barbara Dianne Savage  
Robert Self  
Josef Sorett  
Matthew Sutton  
Wendy Wall  
Keith Woodhouse

Also presenting were Kate Netzler Burch, Cara Burnidge, Mauricio Castro, Jamil Drake, Laura McTighe, Max Perry Mueller, Brendan Payne, Kip Richardson, Charles Louis Richter, Ronit Stahl, Sher Afgan Tareen, Rebecca Wagner, Stephanie Wolfe, and Gene Zubovich.





# Online Journal

Since its launch in May 2012, the online journal *Religion & Politics* has been a vital and celebrated component of the overall program of educational activities and resources promoted by the John C. Danforth Center on Religion and Politics. The journal has had nearly half a million readers since it began, and it generally receives between 50,000-100,000 pageviews per month. By June 2014, the journal had received 1.8 million total pageviews and attracted 9,725 Facebook Fans, 5,648 Twitter Followers, and 1,019 Newsletter Subscribers. Clearly, our reach has risen rapidly.

The goal of *Religion & Politics* is to serve the Center’s broader mission of promoting the public understanding of religion’s intersection with politics in the U.S. by attempting to reach a diverse audience both within and beyond the university community. It publishes pieces from a wide range of diverging viewpoints, rather than sticking to a single one. The tagline, “fit for polite company,” underscores the civility that we bring to the discussion of these often heated topics. We solicit writers from a range of fields, including journalism, the arts and humanities, and the social sciences.

This year *Religion & Politics* won first place for the 2013 Gerald A. Renner Enterprise Religion Report of the Year. The journal was also recognized as an Official Nominee at the 18th Annual Webby Awards in the category of best Religion and Spirituality website. Hailed as the “Internet’s highest honor” by *The New York Times*, the Webby Awards, presented by the International Academy of Digital Arts and Sciences (IADAS), is the leading international award honoring excellence on the Internet. Other Official Nominees in this category were *Reverberations*, *Religion & Ethics NewsWeekly*, *On Being*, and *Religion Dispatches*.

# Religion & Politics

Fit For Polite Company

## List of Featured Articles 2013-14

- Marriage Equality and Religious Liberty:  
Another Chapter in the Story  
*By Kent Brintnall*
- A Short History of Christian Matchmaking  
*By Paul Putz*
- Obama and the Paradoxes of Progressive  
Christianity: An Interview with James Kloppenberg  
*By Tiffany Stanley*
- What the Show *Cosmos* Gets Wrong About  
Religion – And Science  
*By Elizabeth Yale*
- Thomas Jefferson’s Qur’an  
*By Juliane Hammer*
- In Upcoming Indian Election, the Legacy of  
Religious Violence Looms  
*By Ilan Greenberg*
- TOMS Shoes and the Spiritual Politics of  
Neoliberalism  
*By Lucia Hulsether*
- The New Jim Crow: Churches Respond to Mass  
Incarceration  
*By Alfredo Garcia*
- Shaun Casey Talks About Leading the State  
Department’s Faith-Based Office  
*By Mara Willard*
- Texas Textbooks: A Case Study for  
Creationism’s Staying Power  
*By Molly Worthen*
- An Evolving Mormon Church Finally  
Addresses a Racist Past  
*By Max Perry Mueller*
- The Establishment Clause: An Interview with  
Judge Guido Calabresi  
*By Marie Griffith*
- Concerning “Goodbye Christ”: Langston  
Hughes, Political Poetry, and African American  
Religion  
*By Wallace Best*
- Why Faith Groups Are Rallying Around  
Immigration Reform  
*By Jack Jenkins*
- The Critic Within: On Father Andrew Greeley  
(1928-2013)  
*By Robert Orsi*

## Masthead

- Editor*  
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on Religion and Politics
- Managing Editor*  
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- Contributing Editor*  
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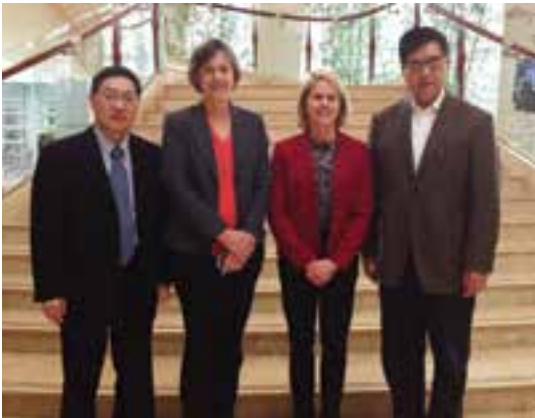
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# Faculty Service

Our faculty members are constantly engaged in local, national, and global activities to extend the scholarship and understanding of religion and politics beyond the classroom. Their connections support the Center’s aim to foster collaborative and productive discussion of the historical and contemporary intertwining of religion and politics.

## Fudan University

In April 2014, Marie Griffith and Laurie Maffly-Kipp traveled to Fudan University in Shanghai, where they were hosted by Dr. Xu Yihua, Professor at the Center for American Studies and Department of International Politics. Dr. Xu, who received his master’s in history from Wuhan University and his PhD in religion from Princeton University, is renowned in China for his scholarship on the history of Christianity in China, American religion, and the area of religion and international relations. They spent a week meeting with Dr. Xu, along with other Fudan faculty and students, to learn about the past and current state of religious tolerance in China. They visited a number of religious congregations and historic buildings, including Catholic, mainline Protestant, evangelical, Jewish, Buddhist, Taoist, and Mormon sites. The productive visit may be the first in a possible ongoing collaboration with Fudan in the area of religion and politics. Along with Fudan and Dr. Xu, the trip was sponsored by the McDonnell International Scholars Academy at Washington University and the Ford Foundation.



## University of Nevada, Las Vegas

In January 2014, Mark Jordan joined professors and Biblical scholars Karen King and Bart Ehrman for a spirited public discussion of the question, “Does it matter whether Jesus was married?”

## Princeton University

In March 2014, Rachel McBride Lindsey presented her research at “Race and Religion in American History,” a conference organized by the Religion Department.

## University of Heidelberg

In May 2014, Laurie Maffly-Kipp traveled to the University of Heidelberg, where she was a visiting professor and received the James W.C. Pennington Award. This honor is given by the Heidelberg Center for American Studies and the Faculty of Theology of Heidelberg University. Endowed by the Manfred Lautenschläger Foundation, the prize pays tribute to the African American churchman and former slave James W.C. Pennington, who in 1849 received an honorary doctorate from Heidelberg University.



## Smithsonian Institution

In December 2013, Leigh Schmidt was part of a consortium convened by the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C., to consider how religion can be more fully integrated into the mission of the National Museum of American History, including its public exhibitions. He spoke on “Atheists, Secularists, and Nonbelievers in American History,” but the meeting considered a wide range of traditions, movements, and materials from the nation’s richly variegated religious past (and present).

## Valparaiso University

As a Distinguished Lecturer in the Organization of American Historians’ Distinguished Lecture-ship Program, Darren Dochuk delivered a number of public talks stemming from his research on religion, energy, environment, and the politics of oil, including among others the Willis Boyd Lecture, hosted by Valparaiso University.



# Supporters

## The Danforth Foundation

The John C. Danforth Center on Religion and Politics owes its existence to the tremendous generosity of the Danforth Foundation, founded in 1927 by Mr. and Mrs. William H. Danforth. The Foundation’s commitment to funding St. Louis-based initiatives is well known, and in 2009 it announced a major gift of \$30 million to Washington University to establish the Center. John C. Danforth, former Senator from Missouri and U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations, was particularly engaged in the Center’s founding and remains a member of its National Advisory Board. This gift reflects Senator Danforth’s specific interest in religion and politics, as set out in his 2006 book, *Faith and Politics: How the “Moral Values” Debate Divides America and How to Move Forward Together* (Viking).

Center Director Marie Griffith holds the John C. Danforth Distinguished University Professorship that was established as a part of this generous founding gift. We thank Senator and Mrs. (Sally) Danforth, and the Danforth Foundation, for their tremendous generosity and continuing encouragement of the Center.



## Dr. William B. and the Reverend Priscilla Wood Neaves

In the fall of 2012, William B. Neaves, an emeritus trustee at Washington University in St. Louis, established a professorship for the John C. Danforth Center on Religion and Politics in honor of his wife, Priscilla Wood Neaves. The Reverend Mrs. Neaves is a former Methodist minister with a personal interest in the role of gender in religion and politics. William Neaves has served on the Washington University Board of Trustees since 2003 and is a current member of the National Council for the School of Medicine. In addition to this generous gift to the Danforth Center, the couple donated Wood Neaves’s library containing books on gender and religion to Olin Library.



## Additional Contributors

(Gifts given in the 2013-14 year are indicated in bold.)

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## Looking Forward

“Religion has always been intricately entwined in American politics, especially at election times, yet there have always been strong forces at work to separate them. Thomas Jefferson, for instance, sought to draw cogent boundaries between religion and politics; and while he largely did so to protect the state from church intrusion, he was also concerned about protecting religion from political corruption. In recent years, vast changes have occurred to make religion a particularly divisive issue in our political life and the election cycle. In short, the role of religion in U.S. politics has never seemed a more pressing concern than it is today, and this Center exists to shed light on these critical issues.”

Marie Griffith  
Director, John C. Danforth Center  
on Religion and Politics

*Students in Prof. Martin's class listen to a classmate's final presentation.*



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# New Appointments/Faculty

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## Lerone A. Martin

Lerone A. Martin will join the faculty at the Center as Assistant Professor of Religion and Politics on July 1, 2014, after a one-year postdoctoral fellowship with the Center.

Martin earned his BA from Anderson University in Anderson, IN, and his MDiv from Princeton Theological Seminary before completing his PhD at Emory University in 2011. From 2010-2013, Lerone was Assistant Professor of American Religious History and Culture at Eden Theological Seminary in Saint Louis, MO, where he taught courses in American and African American religious history.

His first book project, *Preaching on Wax: The Phonograph and the Making of Modern African American Religion* (New York University Press, 2014) will be released in the fall. The monograph tracks the role of the phonograph in the shaping of African American religion, culture, and politics during the first half of the twentieth century. In support of his research, Martin has received fellowships from the Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning Religion and Theology, The Louisville Institute for the Study of American

Religion, Emory University's Howard Hughes Medical Institute, The Fund for Theological Education, and Princeton University's Program (now Center) for African American Studies.

Martin currently chairs the American Academy of Religion (AAR) Teaching and Learning Committee and serves on the AAR Afro-American Religious History Group as well. In the past, he has worked as a research consultant for continuing education and recidivism at New York's Sing Sing State Prison, as well as an instructor at Georgia's Metro State Prison. His commentary and writing have appeared in popular media outlets such as CNN, *Religion Dispatches*, *Charisma*, *The Saint Louis Post-Dispatch*, and *The Atlanta Journal Constitution*.



## Mark Valeri

Mark Valeri will join the faculty of the Danforth Center on Religion and Politics as the Reverend Priscilla Wood Neaves Distinguished Professor of Religion and Politics effective July 1, 2014.

Committed to both undergraduate and graduate education, and widely regarded as one of the most eminent scholars of American religion during the political upheavals of the revolutionary era, Valeri's areas of research and teaching include religion and social thought, especially economics, in America; Reformation theology and the political history of Calvinism; Puritanism; and enlightenment moral philosophy.

Valeri comes to Washington University from Union Presbyterian Seminary in Richmond, Virginia, where he served as the Ernest Trice Thompson Professor of Church History since 1996. His prior appointment was in the Religious Studies department at Lewis and Clark College, where he won a faculty achievement award for outstanding teaching.

His latest book, *Heavenly Merchandize: How Religion Shaped Commerce in Puritan America*, (Princeton University Press, 2010), received the 2011 Philip Schaff Prize from the American Society of Church History. It was also shortlisted for the 2011 American Academy of Religion Award for Excellence in the Historical Study of Religion and selected as one of *Choice* magazine's Outstanding Academic Titles for 2010.

Previous publications include *Law and Providence in Joseph Bellamy's New England: The Origins of the New Divinity in Revolutionary America* (Oxford University Press, 1994), which won the Mackemie Prize from the Presbyterian Historical Society; *The Works of Jonathan Edwards, Vol. 17: Sermons and Discourses, 1730-1733* (Yale University Press, 1999); *Practicing Protestants: Histories of Christian Life in America, 1630-1965* (The Johns Hopkins University Press, 2006), co-edited with Laurie F. Maffly-Kipp and Leigh E. Schmidt; and the co-edited *Global Neighbors: Christian Faith and Moral Obligation in Today's Economy* (Eerdmans, 2008).

Valeri has received several fellowships, including an Andrew W. Mellon fellowship, a National Endowment for the Humanities fellowship, an American Council of Learned Societies grant, and a Lilly Endowment faculty fellowship.

Valeri earned the PhD from Princeton University, his MDiv from Yale Divinity School, and his BA, *summa cum laude*, from Whitworth College.

He currently is working on religious persuasion, evangelicalism, and secularism in the eighteenth century.

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## 2014-15 Postdoctoral Fellows



**Maryam Kashani**

Maryam Kashani completed the PhD in social anthropology from the University of Texas at Austin in 2014. Her research and filmmaking are organized around the centrality of visual culture to Muslim everyday life and its critical relation to questions of moral development, political identity, ethics, and social justice. Her dissertation, “Seekers of Sacred Knowledge: Zaytuna College and the Education of American Muslims” is based on eighteen months of fieldwork conducted at Zaytuna College, an emergent Muslim liberal arts college that was established in 2009 in Berkeley, California. As a postdoctoral fellow, she will develop her dissertation towards publication and offer courses on Islam and Muslims in America and on the construction of race and religion as analytical categories.

Kashani earned her MFA in film/video from the California Institute of the Arts in 2003 and double-majored in film and interdisciplinary field studies as an undergraduate at the University of California, Berkeley.



**Ronit Y. Stahl**

Ronit Y. Stahl completed the PhD in history from the University of Michigan in 2014. Her research focuses on the interaction between religion and the state in modern America. Stahl’s dissertation, “God, War, and Politics: The American Military Chaplaincy and the Making of a Multireligious Nation,” reveals how the modern American state wielded power over and through religion, transforming the spiritual landscape of American society, as well as using faith to support military and foreign policy goals. Against the backdrop of constitutional separation of church and state, the military intertwined religion and democracy as the ideological center of American values, identities, and empire. She will teach a class on religion and the constitution this fall (RelPol 395) and use her time as a postdoctoral fellow to revise her manuscript for publication.

Stahl earned her MA in social sciences in education from Stanford University and her BA in English from Williams College.

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## 2014-15 Dissertation Fellows



**Lauren Turek**

Lauren Turek is a doctoral candidate in the Corcoran Department of History at the University of Virginia. She specializes in the history of U.S. foreign relations, politics, and 20th-century American evangelicalism. Her dissertation entitled “To Bring the Good News to All Nations: Evangelicals, Human Rights, and U.S. Foreign Policy, 1969-1994,” explores the complex and deeply significant ways in which religion and religious groups interacted with foreign policy, political culture, and the international human rights regime to shape America’s role in the modern world. In spring 2013, she taught the course, “Religion and U.S. Foreign Relations in the Twentieth Century” at the University of Virginia.

Turek earned her MA in history from the University of Virginia and her master’s in museum studies from New York University. She earned her BA in history at Vassar College.



**Stephanie Wolfe**

Stephanie Wolfe is a doctoral candidate in the Department of Religious Studies at Northwestern University, where she specializes in the field of American Religion. Her dissertation, entitled “Urban Renewal: The Evangelical Encounter with Race, Poverty and Inequality in Chicago,” utilizes ethnographic and historical methods to examine evangelical conceptions of urban America, social justice, and racial identity throughout the late twentieth and early twenty-first centuries. Wolfe’s broader interests include American religious history—particularly American evangelicalism—urban studies, and the intersections among religion, politics, race, and capitalism in American public life.

Wolfe earned her MA in religious studies at Northwestern University and her BA in religion from Columbia University. She serves as an Assistant Curator at the Newberry Library in Chicago for an interactive web-based exhibit entitled Faith in the City: Chicago’s Religious Diversity in the Era of the World’s Fair.



# 2014-15 Public Events and Courses

A sample of coming events we are planning includes:

## Fall 2014

Senators Joseph Lieberman and John C. Danforth

Religion and Politics in 21st Century America  
Conference at Southern Methodist University

Stephen Prothero  
Professor of Religion,  
Boston University

Religion and Politics Film Series

## Spring 2015

Saba Mahmood  
Associate Professor of Sociocultural Anthropology, University of California-Berkeley

Rachel M. Lindsey  
Associate Director, Danforth Center on Religion and Politics

## Spring 2016

His Eminence Timothy Cardinal Dolan, Archbishop of New York

Our course offerings continue to expand. Fall 2014 Courses include:

Religion and the Constitution in the United States

Faith and Politics in America's Cold War

City on a Hill: The Concept and Culture of American Exceptionalism

Religion and Politics in American History

Religion and the State: Global Mission, Global Empire

Religion and the Modern Civil Rights Movement, 1954-1968







Washington University in St. Louis

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