

CURRICULUM VITAE

Last Updated: December 15, 2019

David L. Riggs

Dean of the John Wesley Honors College
Associate Professor of Humanities, Indiana Wesleyan University

4201 S. Washington Street
Goodman Hall, 203-B
Marion, IN 46953, USA

Office: (765) 677-2808
Fax: (765) 677-1768
Email: david.riggs@indwes.edu

I. EDUCATION

University of Oxford

Doctor of Philosophy in Ancient History (Faculty of Classics), 2005.

Thesis: "Pagans and Christians in Central North Africa: Reconsidering the Growth of Christianity from Cyprian to Augustine."

Supervisor: Dr. Simon R. F. Price.

Examiners: Professors Averil Cameron and Gillian Clark.

Master of Philosophy in Roman History (Faculty of Classics), 1996.

Coursework Areas: Roman Social and Cultural History; Religion in Late Antiquity; Historiography.

Thesis: "Orosius' *Historiae Adversus Paganos*: A Contextual Study of his Apologetic Enterprise."

Course Supervisor: Robin Lane Fox; Thesis Advisor: Averil Cameron

Recipient of United Kingdom Overseas Research Student Award, 1994-1996.

Princeton Theological Seminary

Master of Divinity, *Summa cum Laude*, 1994.

Area of Concentration: Patristics

Recipient of the E. L. Wailes Memorial Prize in New Testament Studies, 1993.

Teaching Assistant for Greek Instruction, 1992-1994.

Azusa Pacific University

Bachelor of Arts in History, *Magna cum Laude*, 1991.

Outstanding Student of the Year, History Department

NAIA Academic All-American (Football)

Inducted into APU's Academic Hall of Honor in October, 2010

II. PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Indiana Wesleyan University (2009 – Present)

Dean, John Wesley Honors College

Associate Professor of Humanities, John Wesley Honors College

As dean (formerly executive director), I provide senior leadership for IWU's John Wesley Honors College (JWHC). I am responsible for strategic planning, public engagement, enrolment management, faculty hiring, faculty formation and evaluation, curricular and co-curricular development, program assessment, budget planning and management, and collaboration with other schools in the College of Arts and Sciences (CAS) on interdisciplinary honors programming. I am assisted in this work by a JWHC associate director, a programs coordinator, and a coordinator of recruitment. I lead a group of eight JWHC faculty members who hold either full (5) or joint (3) appointments

in the honors college. In my administrative capacity I likewise serve on the CAS Senior Academic Leadership Team, Deans' Council, Academic Affairs Council, and the University Scholarship Council. I chair the JWHC Curriculum Committee and Honors College Advisory Committee. I also teach three courses annually in the JWHC's Honors Humanities major/minor (a comprehensive four-year core curriculum for students in the Honors College).

Indiana Wesleyan University (2000 – 2009)

Director, John Wesley Honors College

Assistant/Associate Professor of History and Religion

I developed a fledgling Honors College into a national benchmark for faith-based collegiate honors education. During this decade, the number of students participating in the John Wesley Honors College doubled, the size of the annual applicant pool and academic quality of the incoming freshman classes increased significantly, honors coursework grew from a meager distribution of honors sections of general education courses into a comprehensive four-year core curriculum, and the honors college became the University's chief sponsor of co-curricular programming related to undergraduate research, "faith and learning," and faculty scholarship. Additionally, a dedicated faculty was established for the honors college.

Additional Service to the University:

- Member of Provost's Task Force on Mission Fit Hiring, 2018-2019. (Co-authored a White Paper ["Mission Fit Hiring at Indiana Wesleyan University"], which served as the guiding document for the Task Force deliberations]. The Task Force produced a Mission Fit Hiring Guide that translates IWU's mission and educational philosophy into criteria for mission-fit faculty hiring that are substantive, clear, consistent, and logical. The Board of Trustees approved the new hiring guide in October 2019.)
- Member of Selection Committee for the Aldersgate Prize (an annual book prize awarded by the JWHC), 201 – Present.
- Member of Selection Committee for IWU's Principium Faculty Lecture Series, 2006 – 2017.
- Member of University Restructuring Task Force: Working Group for the College of Arts & Sciences, 2008-2009. (The recommendations from the Working Group were implemented on July 1, 2009 as part of a new university academic structure)
- Institutional Representative, *Lilly Fellows Program in Humanities and the Arts*, 2005 – 2009.
- Member of University Task Force on Christian Liberal Learning, 2007. (Co-authored the Task Force's White Paper: "In Search of a Common Understanding: A Christian Liberal Education at Indiana Wesleyan University")
- Member of Selection Committee for IWU's Lilly Student Research Awards, 2006 – 2011. (Stipends awarded to undergraduates for participation in faculty-led research projects)
- Member of Selection Committee for IWU's Lilly Faculty Scholarship Awards, 2009 – 2011; 2017. (Research funds awarded to IWU faculty)

- Faculty Sponsor for IWU’s chapter of the Alpha Chi National Collegiate Honors Society, 2006-2008. (Oversaw the institutional application for and establishment of IWU’s chapter)
- IWU’s Faculty Representative for the Jack Kent Cooke Graduate Scholarships, 2006-2008. (Responsible for evaluating IWU applications and submitting an institutional nominee for the scholarships)
- Co-leader of a three-week academic excursion for IWU students in England, Summer 2003. (Responsible for the travel schedule/logistics and on-site instruction for 16 undergraduate students)

Teaching and Mentoring Experience:

- Selection of Courses Taught: History of Christianity I (through A.D. 1517); Humanities: History of World Civilizations; Pagans & Christians in the Roman World; The Life and Legacy of Augustine of Hippo; History of the Muslim-Christian Encounter; Grace in the Early Church; Beginning Latin; Honors Seminar on Faith & Scholarship; Liberal Learning & Life Calling Seminar I: What is Truth? (a gateway course for JWHC freshmen); Liberal Learning & Life Calling Capstone: How then shall We Live? (the capstone course for the honors humanities major/minor).
- To date, I have supervised Honors Scholarship Projects (undergraduate theses) in each of the following academic areas: Church History (12 students), Theology & Culture (6 students), and Higher Education (4 students).
- A colleague and I worked with more than 20 undergraduate students as co-researchers in an interdisciplinary research project on “early Christian conceptions of grace” (2006 – 2011).

III. RESEARCH INTERESTS AND SCHOLARSHIP

<https://indwes.academia.edu/DavidRiggs>

Research on the History of Late Antiquity: Roman/Vandal North Africa; Religious World of Late Antiquity; Early Christian Texts; Christianisation of the Roman Empire; Archaeology of Graeco-Roman Religions; Patronage and Reciprocity in Roman Empire.

Research on Higher Education: History and Philosophies of Liberal Education; Christian Higher Education; Collegiate Honors Programming; Undergraduate Research; Spirituality and Holistic Learning.

Research on History of Late Antiquity: Publications and Presentations

Books

Divine Patronage in Late Roman and Vandal Africa: Reconsidering a Local Narrative of Christianisation. Oxford Classical Monographs (Oxford: Oxford University Press, in preparation).

Peer-Reviewed Articles and Book Chapters

“Traditional Cults in Early Roman Africa,” in *Religious Life at Carthage in sLate Antiquity*, ed. Jane E. Merdinger (Leiden: E. J. Brill, in preparation).

- “Romano-African Cults under Christian Rulers,” in *Religious Life at Carthage in Late Antiquity*, ed. Jane E. Merdinger (Leiden: E. J. Brill, in preparation).
- “Scriptural Narrations of Grace and Divine Patronage in North Africa’s Early Christian Hagiography,” in *De Gruyter Handbook on the Reception and Use of Scripture in Christian North Africa*, Vol. 1, ed. Anthony Dupont and Jonathan Yates (Berlin: De Gruyter, forthcoming).
- “Contesting the Legacy and Patronage of Saint Cyprian in Vandal Carthage,” in *Studia Patristica, Vol. XCII*, ed. M. Vinzent (Leuven: Peeters Publishers, 2017).
- “The Rise and Spread of Christianity and its Jewish Roots,” in *The Book of Books: Biblical Canon, Dissemination and its People*, eds. Jerry Pattengale, Lawrence Schiffman and Filip Vukosavović (Jerusalem: Bible Lands Museum, 2013).
- “The Apologetics of Grace in Tertullian and Early African Martyr Acts,” in *Studia Patristica, Vol. XLIV - Historica, Biblica, Ascetica et Hagiographica*, ed. M. Vinzent (Leuven: Peeters Publishers, 2013).
- “Apologetic Performance and Saint Stephen as Civic Patron in Late Roman Africa,” in *Studia Patristica, Vol. LXIX - Historica, Biblica, Ascetica et Hagiographica*, ed. J. Baun, A. Cameron, M. Edwards, and M. Vinzent (Leuven: Peeters Publishers, 2010).
- “Placing the Christian Basilicas of Pre-Constantinian North Africa in their Proper Architectural Context,” in *Studia Patristica. Vol. XXXIX - Historica, Biblica, Ascetica et Hagiographica*, ed. F. Young, M. Edwards, P. Parvis (Leuven: Peeters Publishers, 2006).
- “Christianizing the Rural Communities of Late Roman Africa: A Process of Coercion or Persuasion?” in *Violence in Late Antiquity: Perceptions and Practices*, ed. H. A. Drake (Aldershot, U.K.: Ashgate Publishing, 2006).
- “The Continuity of Paganism between the Cities and Countryside of Late Roman Africa” in *Urban Centers and Rural Contexts in Late Antiquity*, eds. T. S. Burns, J. W. Eadie (East Lansing: Michigan State U. Press, 2001).

Book reviews for the *Journal of Early Christian Studies*, *Bryn Mawr Classical Review*, and *Church History*.

Translation Scholarship

Edited and Translated (Latin to English) various sermons by Eusebius of Emesa for *Gospel of Matthew: Interpreted by Early Christian Commentators (The Church's Bible)*, ed., D. H. Williams (Eerdmans, 2018).

Edited and Translated (Latin to English) an unpublished Letter of Martin Luther (4 October 1518) from the Green Collection for its *Passages Exhibition* and Catalogue (2012).

Scholarly Presentations

- “The ‘*Genius of Carthage*’ is a False God: Was Augustine Tilting at ‘Pagan’ Windmills?,” presenting at the *North American Patristics Society Annual Meeting* (Chicago, May 2020).
- “Re-Contextualizing the Nature and Significance of the African Cult of Saturn,” presented in the Greco-Roman Religions Section at the *Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature* (San Diego, November 2019).
- “*Quomodo Roma, sic et Carthago*: Disputing Narratives of Christianisation for Late Roman Africa,” presented at the *XVIIIth International Conference on Patristic Studies* (Oxford, August 2019).
- “The *Acta Gallonii*: Assessing the Significance of a Recently-Discovered Martyr Act from the Great Persecution,” presented at the *North American Patristics Society Annual Meeting* (Chicago, May 2018).
- “What was the Significance of the Punic Legacy for the Spread of Christianity in Roman Africa,” presented at the *Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature* (Boston, November 2017).
- “Cultivating Heavenly Patronage on the Margins of Vandal Africa: the *Passio Salsae*,” presented at the *North American Patristics Society Annual Meeting* (Chicago, May 2017).
- “From Infant Sacrificers to Contenders for Divine Favor: Recovering the Shared Religious Milieu of Punic Carthage and Rome,” presented at the *Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature* (San Antonio, November 2016).
- “The After-life of Saint Cyprian in Vandal Carthage,” presented at the *Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature* (Atlanta, November 2015).
- “Cyprian against the Nicaeans: Claiming the Saint for Homoean Christianity in Vandal Carthage,” presented at the *XVIIth International Conference on Patristic Studies* (Oxford, August 2015).
- “Anti-Pagan Aggression or a Herculean Compromise: The Occasion and Purpose of Augustine’s Sermones 24 and 279,” presented at the *North American Patristics Society Annual Meeting* (Chicago, May 2014).
- “Preaching against ‘Pagans’ in Vandal North Africa,” presented at the *Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature* (Baltimore, November 2013).
- “Parsing Patterns of Violence and Pedagogies of Hatred, while Reconsidering the Realities of ‘Christian gangsters’ in Augustine’s Africa,” contribution to review panel on Brent Shaw’s *Sacred Violence: African Christians and Sectarian Hatred in the Age of Augustine*, presented at the *North American Patristics Society Annual Meeting* (Chicago, May 2013).

- “Grace, Piety and Divine Patronage in Cyprian’s *De opera et eleemosynis*,” presented at the *North American Patristics Society Annual Meeting* (Chicago, May 2012).
- “Rendering Grace for Grace: The Theological Practices of Divine Patronage in Early North African Christianity,” presented at *Wesley Seminary’s Theological Research Seminar* (December 2011).
- “The Apologetic Usage of Grace in the North African Church during the Second and Third Centuries,” presented at the *XVIth International Conference on Patristic Studies* (Oxford, August 2011).
- “Constructing North African Hagiography in a Post-Roman World,” presented at the *North American Patristics Society Annual Meeting* (Chicago, May 2010).
- “From Libyco-Punic to Romano-African Cults: Divine Patronage in Carthage until 312 CE,” presented as part of a two-part panel discussion on “Religious Life at Carthage in Late Antiquity, 200-700 CE” at the *North American Patristics Society Annual Meeting* (Chicago, May 2009).
- “Romano-African Cults in *Tempora Christiana*, 312-698 CE,” presented as part of a two-part panel discussion on “Religious Life at Carthage in Late Antiquity, 200-700 CE” at the *North American Patristics Society Annual Meeting* (Chicago, May 2009).
- “‘Saint Stephen of Uzalis’ and the Dynamics of Christianization in Late Roman Africa,” presented at the *North American Patristics Society Annual Meeting* (Chicago, May 2008).
- Invited Respondent for “The Influence of Augustine’s Baptism at Milan on his Ecclesiology and Christian Self-Understanding” (*Patristic Study Group: Early Christianity in Africa*) at the *59th Annual Meeting of the Evangelical Theological Society* (San Diego, CA, November 2007 – Paper read *in absentia*).
- “Divine Patronage, Apologetic Performance and Church Life in the *De Miraculis Sancti Stephani*,” presented at the *XVth International Conference on Patristic Studies* (Oxford, August 2007).
- “Traditional Cultic Monuments and the Priorities of Public Construction in the Cities of Late Roman Africa,” presented at the *International Medieval Studies Congress* (Western Michigan Univ., Kalamazoo, May 2007).
- “Augustine’s *Epp.* 46-47 and the Religious Complexion of Late Roman Africa,” presented at the *North American Patristics Society Annual Meeting* (Loyola Univ., Chicago, June 2005).
- “Vandal Contributions to the Christianisation of North Africa,” presented at *Shifting Frontiers in Late Antiquity VI: Romans, Barbarians, and the Transformation of the Roman World* (University of Illinois, March 2005).
- “Placing the Christian Basilicas of Pre-Constantinian North Africa in their

Proper Architectural Context,” presented at the *Fourteenth International Conference on Patristic Studies* (Oxford, August 2003).

“Christianising the Rural Communities of Late Roman Africa,” presented at *Shifting Frontiers in Late Antiquity V: Violence, Victims, and Vindication in Late Antiquity* (University of California, Santa Barbara, March 2003).

“The Growth and Progress of North African Christianity from Gallienus to Constantine: ‘The Triumph of Christianity’?,” presented at the *North American Patristics Society Annual Meeting* (Loyola Univ., Chicago, May 2002).

“Pagan and Christian Responses to the Carthaginian Epidemic of A.D. 252: Testing an Aspect of Rodney Stark’s Sociological Reconstruction of Christianization against the Historical Record,” presented at the *North American Patristics Society Annual Meeting* (Loyola Univ., Chicago, May 2001).

“Christianizing the Countryside in Late Roman Africa,” presented at the *North American Patristics Society Annual Meeting* (Loyola Univ., Chicago, May 2000).

“The Continuity of Urban and Rural Paganism in Late Roman Africa,” presented at *Shifting Frontiers in Late Antiquity II: Urban and Rural in Late Antiquity* (Emory University, March 1999).

“Orosius’ *Historiae Adversus Paganos*: Its Occasion, Purpose, and Audience,” presented at the *North American Patristics Society Annual Meeting* (Loyola Univ., Chicago, May 1998).

Scholarly Contributions in Popular Venues

Contributing Researcher and On-Screen Historian for *Inexplicable: How Christianity Spread to the Ends of the Earth* – Part 1: “From the Cradle of Christianity.” This historical documentary aired on the *Trinity Broadcasting Network* (first aired: January 13, 2020). (On-Screen Contributions: 16:05-17:15; 23:38-58; 29:54-30:25; 32:46-33:01; 43:05-42) <https://watch.tbn.org/videos/inexplicable-1>

“Share your Baptismal Identity with All Nations: Disciple Making in the Early Church,” invited presentation for The Wesleyan Church’s Doctrinal Symposium (May 2019). <https://youtu.be/dFXj-cipD3I?t=60>

“Partakers of Heavenly Favor: How the Early Church Transformed the Graeco-Roman Concept of Grace,” a public lecture presented as part of *Passages: Treasures of the Bible – Speakers Series*, sponsored by the Museum of the Bible (Springfield, MO, August 2014).

Research on Higher Education: Publications and Presentations

Publications

Pattengale, Jerry, Todd Ream and David Riggs (Editors). *Beyond Integration?: Inter/Disciplinary Possibilities for the Future of Christian Higher Education* (Abilene, TX: Abilene Christian University Press, 2012).

Co-editing with Stan Rosenberg and Aron Reppman, *Seeking the Soul of Excellence: Spirituality and Holistic Learning in Honors Education*. National Collegiate Honors Council Monograph Series (Endorsed by the NCHC Publication Board; Projected completion date: Spring 2021).

Conference/Invited Presentations

“Navigating LGBTQ Issues at Faith-Based Colleges and Universities”: a panel Presentation with colleagues from other CCCU campuses at which I shared about the honors capstone I teach devoted to contextualizing gender and sexuality within a historic Christian vision of human flourishing and to cultivating redemptive lives of Christian virtue amid LGBTQ cultural conversations and divides. *National Collegiate Honors Council Annual Meeting* (Boston, November 2018).

“Defining Honors on Campuses within the *Council for Christian Colleges and Universities*,” a plenary presentation delivered at the *CCCU Honors Directors Workshop: Best Practices and Best Outcomes* (Chicago: November, 2015).

“Spirituality in Honors,” panel presentation at the *National Collegiate Honors Council Annual Meeting* (Chicago: November, 2015).

“Curricular Innovation in Faith-Oriented institutions: Challenging Structures,” panel presentation at the *National Collegiate Honors Council Annual Meeting* (Boston: November, 2012).

“Cultivating the Virtues through Undergraduate Portfolios,” presented to the faculty of John Brown University (Siloam Springs, AR: February, 2012).

“How Might Honors Portfolios Facilitate Christian Liberal Learning?,” presented to the faculty and the executive committee of the Honors Scholars Program at John Brown University (Siloam Springs, AR: February, 2012).

“Integrity and Tension: Honors Mission and Institutional Traditions in Faith-Oriented Institutions,” “*Developing in Honors Workshop*,” panel presentation at the *National Collegiate Honors Council Annual Meeting* (San Antonio: November, 2008).

“The Creative Tension of Honors Assessment at Faith-Based Schools,” panel presentation at the *National Collegiate Honors Council Annual Meeting* (Denver: November, 2007).

IV. SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION AND ACADEMY

Manuscript Reviewer for the *Journal of Early Christian Studies*; *Church History and Religious Culture*; and *Christian Scholars Review*.

Co-Chair (with David Wilhite, Baylor University) of the program unit, “Contextualizing North African Christianity” in the *Society of Biblical Literature*, 2013 – 2019.

Distinguished Scholar of Latin Texts for the Green Scholars Initiative (an international research collaboration devoted to ancient and medieval manuscripts from the Green Collection), 2012 – 2018. Continuing research work on a fifteenth-century manuscript of the works of Saint Cyprian from the Green Collection.

Leader/Consultant for “Beginning in Honors” (an annual pre-conference workshop to help new honors administrators to understand best practices and outcome for collegiate honors education) at the *National Collegiate Honors Council Annual Meeting* (Boston: 2012; Denver: 2014; Chicago: 2015; Atlanta: 2017; Boston: 2018).

Co-Organizer and Convener (with Stan Rosenberg, Center for Scholarship and Christianity in Oxford), “Spirituality & Honors Education: A National Research Symposium on Holistic Learning,” an NCHC-endorsed conference hosted by the John Wesley Honors College at Indiana Wesleyan University, May 29-31, 2012.

Member, Advisory Board for Honors and the Center for Scholarship and Christianity in Oxford, *Council of Christian Colleges & Universities*, 2004 –Present.

Co-Chair, Advisory Board for Honors and the Center for Scholarship and Christianity in Oxford, *Council of Christian Colleges & Universities*, 2005 – 2010.

Organizer and Convener, “Hearts & Minds II: Honors Education in a Christian Context,” the Second Biennial Workshop for CCCU Honors Administrators and Faculty hosted by the John Wesley Honors College at Indiana Wesleyan University, July 30-August 1, 2009.

V. PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

North American Patristics Society; Society of Roman Studies; Society of Biblical Literature; Society of Late Antiquity; American Society of Church History; National Collegiate Honors Council.

VI. RESEARCH LANGUAGES

Latin, Greek, French (reading knowledge), German (reading knowledge).