

PAUL B. RASOR

Center for the Study of Religious Freedom
Virginia Wesleyan College
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EDUCATION

Ph.D., Harvard University, The Study of Religion, 1999.

Master of Divinity, Harvard Divinity School, 1994.

Juris Doctor, University of Michigan Law School, 1972.

Associate Editor, Michigan Law Review.

Bachelor of Music, University of Michigan School of Music, 1968.

High distinction.

Phi Beta Kappa (admitted as a junior).

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Virginia Wesleyan College

Director of the Center for the Study of Religious Freedom and Professor of Interdisciplinary Studies, since 2005.

Pendle Hill Quaker Study Center

Director of the Religion and Social Issues Forum and Biblical and Religious Studies Teacher, 2000-05; Interim Dean, 2002-04.

Harvard Divinity School

Visiting Lecturer, 1999-2000.

Andover Newton Theological School

Adjunct Instructor in Theology, 1996-2000.

Washburn University School of Law

Assistant Professor of Law, 1978-81.

Associate Professor of Law, 1981-84.

Professor of Law, 1984-1992.

Emeritus Professor of Law, since 1992.

University of Texas School of Law

Visiting Professor of Law, 1986-88.

University of Detroit School of Law

Visiting Associate Professor of Law, 1982-83.

Park College of Kansas City at Holloman Air Force Base, NM.

Instructor in law and political science, 1976-78.

Teaching Abroad

University of San Diego Institute on International and Comparative Law, Mexico City, 1991.

Brunel University and Washburn University joint program in law, Uxbridge, England, 1986.

Teaching Awards

Texas Excellence Teaching Award, University of Texas, 1988.
Outstanding Professor, Washburn University School of Law, 1981-82.

PUBLICATIONS AND PAPERS, RELIGION AND THEOLOGY

Books, Articles, and Reviews:

- “Unitarianism,” in *Cambridge Dictionary of Christian Theology* (Cambridge University Press, forthcoming 2010).
- “Theological and Political Liberalisms: A Comparative Inquiry,” *Journal of Law and Religion* vol. 24, no. 2 (Spring, 2009) (forthcoming).
- “Beyond Just War and Pacifism: Toward a Unitarian Universalist Theology of Prophetic Nonviolence,” *Journal of Liberal Religion* vol. 8 (2008) (forthcoming).
- Book Review: Rex Ahdar and Ian Leigh, *Religious Freedom in the Liberal State* (Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press, 2005), in *Journal of Church and State* vol. 50, no. 1 (Spring, 2008) (forthcoming).
- “Postmodernity, Globalization, and the Challenge of Identity in Liberal Theology,” in Clifford M. Reed and Jill K. McAllister, eds., *The Home We Share: Globalization, Post-Modernism and Unitarian/Universalist Theology* (Caerphilly, Wales: International Council of Unitarians and Universalists, 2007):57-73.
- Book Review: Elizabeth Anne Oldmixon, *God, Sex, and the U.S. House of Representatives* (Georgetown University Press, 2005), in *Journal of Church and State* vol. 48, no. 4 (Autumn, 2006):897-98.
- Faith Without Certainty: Liberal Theology in the Twenty-First Century* (Boston: Skinner House Books, 2005), 248 pages.
- “Reclaiming Our Prophetic Voice: Liberal Theology and the Challenge of Racism,” in Marjorie Bowens-Wheatley and Nancy Palmer Jones, eds., *Soul Work: Anti-Racist Theologies in Dialogue* (Boston: Skinner House Books, 2003):105-123.
- “The Postmodern Challenge to Liberal Theology,” *Unitarian Universalist Christian* vol. 58 (2003):5-56.
- “Intersubjective Communication and the Self in Wieman and Habermas,” *American Journal of Theology and Philosophy* vol. 21 (September, 2000):269-287.
- “The Social Self: A Reply to Susann Pangerl,” *Journal of Liberal Religion* vol. 1, no. 2 (Spring, 2000).
- “The Self in Contemporary Liberal Religion: A Constructive Critique,” *Journal of Liberal Religion* vol. 1, no. 1 (Fall, 1999).
- “The Christian Challenge to Unitarian Universalism,” *Unitarian Universalist Christian* vol. 53 (1998-99):13-23.
- “Biblical Roots of Modern Consumer Credit Law,” *Journal of Law and Religion* vol. 10 (1993):157-92.
- “A Law Teacher Looks at the Good Samaritan Story,” *Washburn Law Journal* vol. 31 (1991):71-9.

Papers and Presentations:

- “Theological and Political Liberalisms: A Comparative Inquiry,” Hamline University Law School Symposium on Law, Religion and Ethics, October 2008.

- “Beyond Just War and Pacifism,” Unitarian Universalist General Assembly, June 2008.
- “Liberal Prophetic Praxis and Constructive Liberal Public Theology,” American Academy of Religion, November 2007.
- “Public Prophetic Religion and the Separation of Church and State,” American Academy of Religion, November 2007.
- “Toward a Unitarian Universalist Theology of Prophetic Nonviolence,” Pittsburgh area Cluster of Unitarian Universalist Churches, November 2007.
- “Reclaiming Prophetic Liberalism: Liberal Religion in the Public Square,” Prairie Star District of the Unitarian Universalist Ministers Association, October 2007.
- “Universalism and the Sectarian Element in Liberal Religion,” John Murray Annual Distinguished Lecture, Unitarian Universalist General Assembly, June 2007.
- “Crossing the Lines: God, Public Schools, and the Constitution” (lead-off lecture in a six-part symposium on Creationism, Evolution, and Intelligent Design: Religion and Science in the Public Schools), Virginia Wesleyan College, February 2007.
- “Liberal Religion and Democracy,” “Liberal Religion and the First Amendment,” “Liberal Religion in Public Discourse,” and “Liberal Religion and the Challenge of Identity” (series of four papers on issues in liberal religion), Southwest Unitarian Universalist Summer Institute, July 2006.
- “Postmodernity, Globalization, and the Challenge of Identity in Liberal Theology” (keynote address), International Council of Unitarians and Universalists (ICUU), International Theological Symposium, Cluj, Romania [Kolozsvár, Transylvania], July 2006. Translated into Hungarian and Czech.
- “Faith, Freedom, and the First Amendment: A Liberal Perspective,” Old Dominion University, March 2006.
- “Separation of Church and State in the United States and England,” Tidewater Community College, Norfolk, VA, November 2005.
- “Liberal Theology’s Tensions: Getting in Our Own Way,” Unitarian Universalist General Assembly, June 2005.
- “Language, Religious Experience, and Postmodernity,” Harper’s Ferry Ministerial Study Group, November 2004.
- “Liberal Theology and Postmodernity,” Greenfield Ministerial Study Group, December 2003.
- “Materialism, Violence, and Culture: The Context of Our Faith,” (lead-off lecture in an eight-week series on Discernment in the Aftermath of September 11), Pendle Hill Quaker Study Center, October 2001.
- “Toward a Holistic and Transformative Pedagogy,” Friends Association of Higher Education, June 2001.
- “Liberal Theology and the Problem of Evil,” Unitarian Universalist Association General Assembly, June 2001.
- “Reclaiming Our Prophetic Voice: Liberal Theology and the Challenge of Racism,” Unitarian Universalist Association Consultation on Theology and Racism, January 2001.

- “Creative Interchange and Communicative Action: A Comparison of Henry Nelson Wieman and Jürgen Habermas,” American Academy of Religion, Pragmatism and Empiricism in American Religious Thought Group, November 1998.
- “Shaping a Critical Liberal Theology for the 21st Century: Learning from Our Critics Left and Right,” Meadville Lombard Theological School, February 1998.
- “Covenantal-Legal Form and Function in Q/Luke 6:27-36,” Society of Biblical Literature, April 1992.
- “Biblical Roots of Modern Consumer Credit Law,” Hamline University Law School Symposium on Law, Religion and Ethics, October 1991.

Recent Columns and Commentary:

- “Prophetic Nonviolence: Toward a Unitarian Universalist Theology of War and Peace,” *UU World* (Spring 2008):26-33. Translated into Spanish.
- “Misunderstanding and Confusion about Religious Freedom,” *Report from the Center*, spring 2008.
- “Virginia’s New Religious Freedom Law,” *Report from the Center*, fall 2007.
- “Intelligent Design: Religion or Science?” *Religious Studies News* vol. 22, no. 3 (American Academy of Religion, May 2007), p. 19 (“In the Public Interest” feature column).
- “The Earliest Religious Freedom Law,” *Report from the Center*, fall 2006.
- “Conflict and Confusion Around Church-State Separation,” *Report from the Center*, spring 2006.
- “Public Displays of the Ten Commandments,” *Report from the Center*, fall 2005.
- “Pledging ‘Under God’,” guest column in *The Virginian-Pilot*, August 14, 2005.

PUBLICATIONS, LAW

Books:

- Consumer Law: Cases and Materials* 2nd ed. (with R. Rohner, J. Spanogle, and D. Pridgen), (St. Paul: West Publishing Co., 1991), 908 pages.
- Teacher’s Manual for Consumer Law: Cases and Materials* (St. Paul: West Publishing Co., 1991), 179 pages.
- Consumer Finance Law: Cases and Materials* (New York: Matthew Bender & Co., 1985), 770 pages.
- Consumer Finance Law Teacher’s Guide* (New York: Matthew Bender & Co., 1986), 164 pages.
- Kansas Law of Sales Under the Uniform Commercial Code* (Topeka: Kansas Bar Association, 1981), 269 pages.

Major Articles and Book Chapters:

- “Security Interests in Investment Securities,” in B. Zaretsky, ed., *Commercial Law Manual* (New York: Matthew Bender & Co., 1991), chapter 26, 30 pages.
- “Financial Information,” in G. Trudow, ed., *Privacy Law and Practice* vol. 1 (New York: Matthew Bender & Co., 1987), chapter 3, 165 pages.
- “A Critical Look at Secured Transaction Under Revised U.C.C. Article 8,” *Florida State University Law Review* 14 (1987):859-90.

- “Privacy Implications of Consumer Credit Protection Laws,” *John Marshall Law Review* 19 (1986):941-57.
- “Controlling Government Access to Personal Financial Records,” *Washburn Law Journal* 25 (1986):417-36.
- “The Secured Farm Creditor’s Interest in Federal Price Supports: Policies and Priorities” (with J. Wadley), *Kentucky Law Journal* 73 (1984-85):595-664.
- “Limitations on Taking and Enforcing Security Interests in Consumer Credit Transactions,” in P. Coogan, et al, eds., *Secured Transactions under the Uniform Commercial Code* vol. 1B (New York: Matthew Bender & Co., 1984), chapter 20AA, 52 pages.
- “The History of Warranties of Quality in the Sale of Goods: Contract or Tort? – A Case Study in Full Circles,” *Washburn Law Journal* 21 (1982):175-218.
- “Commercial Transactions under the New Bankruptcy Act,” *Journal of the Kansas Bar Association* 48 (1979):199-215.
- “Tribal Self-Government and the Indian Reorganization Act of 1934,” *Michigan Law Review* 70 (1972):955-86.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Academy of Religion.
Journal of Law and Religion, referee panel.
Journal of Liberal Religion, advisory board.
Unitarian Universalist Ministers Association.
Collegium: Association of Liberal Religious Studies.