
Thomas Aechtner

Faraday Institute Postdoctoral Research Fellow
 Centre for the History of European Discourses
 Telephone: 07 336 52976 Email: t.aechtner@uq.edu.au

Academic Background

D.Phil	University of Oxford (Religious Studies) <i>Darwin-Scepticism and Mass Persuasion: An Examination of Propaganda in the Evolution Wars</i>	2013
M.A.	University of Calgary (Religious Studies) <i>One in Worship: The Anthropological Investigation of an African Diaspora Christian Community</i>	2008
B.Sc.	University of Alberta (Biological Sciences, Religious Studies)	2003
Research Interests:	The Evolution Wars; Religiously-Motivated Darwin Scepticism; New Atheism; Media and Mass Persuasion; Religion-Science Discourse	

Selected Awards and Fellowships

Faraday Institute Postdoctoral Research Fellowship The Faraday Institute, University of Cambridge	2012
CSRS Religious Studies Teaching Fellowship The Centre for Studies in Religion and Society, University of Victoria	2011
SSHRC Doctoral Fellowship Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada	2010
Arthur Peacocke Studentship Exeter College, University of Oxford	2008
Peter C. Craigie Memorial Scholarship University of Calgary	2007
Thomas Dick Graduate Scholarship in Humanities University of Calgary	2007
Logos Education Society Scholarship University of Calgary	2007

Selected Publications and Contributions

1. Academic Publications:

“Standing at the Crux: Pentecostalism and Identity Formation in an African Diaspora Christian Community.” In *Many Tongues: Globalization and the Transformation of Pentecostalism*, edited by Michael Wilkinson, 171-194. Boston: Brill, 2012.

“Sannyasin,” “Satori,” and “Wahhabiya Islam.” In *The Baker Dictionary of Cults, Sects, and World Religions*, edited by H. Wayne House. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic. [forthcoming]

Review of *Science and the Spirit: A Pentecostal Engagement with the Sciences*, edited by James K. A. Smith and Amos Young. *Canadian Journal of Pentecostal-Charismatic Christianity*, 2:1 (2011): 166-170.

“Online in the Evolution Wars: An Analysis of Young Earth Creationist Cyber-Propaganda.” *The Australian Religious Studies Review*, 23:3 (2010): 277-300.

Review of *God: The Failed Hypothesis: How Science Shows that God Does Not Exist*, by Victor J. Stenger. *Journal for the Study of Religion, Nature and Culture*, 4:3 (2010): 231-2.

Review of *Saving Creation: Nature and Faith in the Life of Holmes Rolston III*, by Christopher J. Preston. *Theological Book Review*, 21:2 (2009): 62-63.

“Blood-typing,” “Immunology,” “Kidney Function,” and “Muscles.” In *Medical Physiology I Laboratory Programme and Protocol*, co-authored with Dr. Jose A. Castillo Herrera. Banjul: University of the Gambia, 2001.

2. Academic/Invited Presentations:

“Uncle Ham Wants You!: Propaganda and Counter-Propaganda in the Evolution Wars.” Presented at: The Centre for Studies in Religion and Society. CSRS Public Lecture Series, University of Victoria, Canada, 2011.

“Can’t We All Get Along?: The Age of Religious Plurality.” Invited Lecture Presented at: Simon Fraser University, Canada, 2011.

“Interpretations of Religious Plurality.” Invited Lecture Presented at: The University of British Columbia, Canada, 2011.

“Terrorism in the Evolution Wars: Examining the Significance of Values-Discourse within Creationist and Atheist Propaganda.” Paper Presented at: The Templeton Foundation Venice Summer School in Science and Religion. Science and Values, Italy, 2010.

“Mass Persuasion and Pedagogy: An Analysis of Evolution Wars Propaganda and Its Implications for Science in Society.” Paper Presented at: The Science in Society Conference, Spain, 2010.

“Science for Persuasion: Propaganda and Counterpropaganda in the Evolution Wars.” Paper presented at: Booms of Popular Science Symposium, Imperial College, United Kingdom, 2010.

“Mass Media for Mass Persuasion: Darwinism and the Significance of Creationist Propaganda.” Paper presented at: The Ian Ramsey Science and Religion Conference: Religious Responses to Darwinism, 1859-2009, United Kingdom, 2009.

“The African-Canadian Mission Field: Investigating the Missional Identity of African-Canadian Communities.” Paper accepted for presentation at: Canadian Ethnic Studies Association Annual Conference, Canada, 2007.

Professional Experience

Sessional Lecturer	2011
RS301: Contemporary Religious Issues – Science and Religion Religious Studies, University of Victoria	
Seminar Coordinator	2009-2010
Religion and Science Seminar Religious Studies, University of Oxford	
Religion-Science Discussion Forum Creator/Facilitator	2009-2010
The Arthur Peacocke Religion Public Discussion Forum Exeter College, University of Oxford	
Graduate Seminar Lecturer	2010
RELS 705.1: Method and Theory in the Study of New Religious Movements Religious Studies, University of Calgary	
Oxford Learning Institute Teacher Training Program	2009-2010
Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning, Graduate Teaching Course OLI, University of Oxford	
Substitute Lecturer	2007
RELS 203: World Religions - Eastern Religious Studies, University of Calgary	
Teaching Assistant and Lecturer	2007
RELS 341: New Religious Movements Religious Studies, University of Calgary	
Teaching Assistant and Lecturer	2006-2007
RELS 205: The Nature of Religion Religious Studies, University of Calgary	
Teaching/Lab Assistant and Lecturer	2001-2002
Medical Physiology I Medicine and Allied Health Sciences, University of the Gambia	

Citizenship and Personal Information

Date of Birth:	December 17 th , 1979
Citizenship:	Canadian and German
Languages:	English (fluent), German (fluent), French (working proficiency), Ancient Hebrew (working proficiency)