

SHELLEY L. BIRDSONG

Associate Professor of Religious Studies
North Central College
30 N. Brainard St. Naperville, IL 60540
(630) 637-5314, slbirdsong@noctrl.edu

EDUCATION

- 2014 Ph.D. Religion: Hebrew Bible
Claremont Graduate University
Advisor: Marvin Sweeney
- 2008 M.A. Interdisciplinary Studies: Hebrew Bible and Philosophy of Religion
Claremont School of Theology
- 2004 B.A. Biblical Studies, Philosophy Minor
Azusa Pacific University

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

- 2020– Associate Professor of Religious Studies
North Central College
- 2017–2020 Assistant Professor of Religious Studies
North Central College
- 2015–2017 Visiting Assistant Professor of Religious Studies
North Central College
- 2014–2015 Visiting Assistant Professor of Biblical Studies
Azusa Pacific University—High Sierra Program
- 2013–2014 Lecturer in Hebrew Bible
Claremont School of Theology
- 2010–2014 Research Associate
Ancient Biblical Manuscript Center
- 2009–2014 Lecturer in Biblical Studies and English
Azusa Pacific University

PUBLICATIONS

Monographs

- 2023 *Judges*. [Smyth & Helwys Bible Commentary](#). Macon, GA: Smyth & Helwys Publishing, in progress.

2017 [*The Last King\(s\) of Judah: Zedekiah and Sedekias in the Hebrew and Old Greek Versions of Jeremiah 37\(44\):1–40\(47\):6*](#). FAT II/89. Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 2017.

Edited Volumes

2021 *Judges, Gender, and Intertextuality*. Edited by Shelley L. Birdsong, J. Cornelis de Vos, and Paul Kim. Atlanta: SBL Press, in progress.

2017 [*Partners with God: Theological and Critical Readings of the Bible in Honor of Marvin A. Sweeney*](#). Edited by Shelley L. Birdsong and Serge Frolov. Claremont, CA: Claremont Press, 2017.

Other Editorial Contributions

2020 “Jeremiah 1-20.” New Revised Standard Version of the Bible. Atlanta: Society of Biblical Literature, submitted.

Book Chapters

2023 “Jeremiah, Lamentations, Baruch, Letter of Jeremiah.” *The Miraculous and the Biblical Traditions*. Edited by Graham H. Twelftree. Leiden, Netherlands: Brill, in progress.

2022 “Women, Gender, and Sexuality.” *The Bible in Antiquity*. The Bible in History and Culture. Edited by Tammi Schneider. London: Bloomsbury, in progress.

2021 “Seeing God While Female: Blessing or Curse?” *Topics of Theology of the Hebrew Scriptures*, vol. 2. Edited by Soo Kim and David Frankel. Atlanta: SBL Press, submitted.

2021 “Re-reading Samson’s ‘Weepy Wife’ in Judges 14: An Intertextual Evaluation of Gender and Weeping.” *Judges, Gender, and Intertextuality*. Edited by Shelley L. Birdsong, J. Cornelis de Vos, and Paul Kim. Atlanta: SBL Press, submitted.

2020 “The Narratives about Isaiah in Isa 36–39.” Pages 95–110 in [*The Oxford Handbook of Isaiah*](#). Edited by Lena-Sofia Tiemeyer. Cambridge: Oxford University Press, 2020.

2017 “Pots, Pits, and Promises: Jeremiah as Allusion to Genesis.” Pages 297–309 in [*Partners with God: Theological and Critical Readings of the Bible in Honor of Marvin A. Sweeney*](#). Edited by Shelley L. Birdsong and Serge Frolov. Claremont, CA: Claremont Press, 2017.

2013 “Who Determines Conversion? A Response to Gary Gilbert.” Pages 29–34 in *Conversion: Claremont Studies in the Philosophy of Religion, Conference 2011*. Religion in Philosophy and Theology 70. Edited by Ingolf U. Dalferth and Michael Ch. Rodgers. Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 2013.

Online Publications

2021 “[Jeremiah](#)” with Marvin A. Sweeney. *Oxford Bibliographies in Biblical Studies*. Ed. Christopher Matthews. New York: Oxford University Press, 2021.

2017 “[Engaging Biblical Plurality: The Zedekiahs in the Books of Jeremiah](#).” The Bible and Interpretation. June 2017.

Essays

- 2015 “Transforming Minor Characters in Jeremiah.” *The Folio: Bulletin of the Ancient Biblical Manuscript Center* 32.1 (Spring 2015): 3, 5–6.
- 2014 “Au Revoir Ancient Biblical Manuscript Center!” *The Folio: Bulletin of the Ancient Biblical Manuscript Center* 31.1 (Spring 2014): 5.
- 2013 “Manuscripts 101: 1QIsa^a.” *The Folio: Bulletin of the Ancient Biblical Manuscript Center* 30.2 (Fall 2013): 4.
- 2013 “Manuscripts 101: Codex Bezae.” *The Folio: Bulletin of the Ancient Biblical Manuscript Center* 30.1 (Spring 2013): 8.
- 2011 “Manuscripts 101: Habakkuk Peshet.” *The Folio: Bulletin of the Ancient Biblical Manuscript Center* 28.2 (Fall 2011): 5.
- 2010 “Manuscripts 101: E.J.G. 108.” *The Folio: Bulletin of the Ancient Biblical Manuscript Center* 27.2 (Fall 2010): 4.
- 2010 “Manuscripts 101: 1QDan^b.” *The Folio: Bulletin of the Ancient Biblical Manuscript Center* 27.1 (Spring 2010): 3.
- 2008 “Dr. De Troyer’s Farewell Lecture,” with Tyler Mayfield. *The Folio: Bulletin of the Ancient Biblical Manuscript Center* 25.1 (Spring 2008): 3, 8.

Dictionary Entries

- 2019 “Luhith,” and “Lye.” *Encyclopedia of the Bible and Its Reception* (eds. Dale C. Allison, et. al. Berlin: De Gruyter, 2019), currently available online.
- 2018 “Lime, Limestone,” “Loin Cloth HB/OT,” “Lo-ruhamah,” *Encyclopedia of the Bible and Its Reception* (eds. Dale C. Allison, et. al. Berlin: De Gruyter, 2018), 16:694–95; 1032–33; 1191–92.
- 2017 “Joel: Book and Person HB/OT.” *Encyclopedia of the Bible and Its Reception* (eds. Dale C. Allison, et. al. Berlin: De Gruyter, 2017), 14:414–16.
- 2016 “Jehoshaphat, Valley of.” *Encyclopedia of the Bible and Its Reception* (eds. Dale C. Allison, et. al. Berlin: De Gruyter, 2016), 13:856–57.
- 2015 “Geruth-Chimham.” *Encyclopedia of the Bible and Its Reception* (eds. Dale C. Allison, et. al. Berlin: De Gruyter, 2015), 10:135–36.
- 2014 “Gareb,” “Gebim,” “Gedaliah Son of Pashhur,” “Gemariah Son of Hilkiyah,” and “Gemariah Son of Shaphan.” *Encyclopedia of the Bible and Its Reception* (eds. Dale C. Allison, et. al. Berlin: De Gruyter, 2014), 9:985, 1059, 1093.

Book Reviews

- 2021 Jeanette Matthews, *Prophets as Performers* in *Review of Biblical Literature*. Forthcoming.
- 2021 Laura A. Smit and Stephen E. Fowl, *Judges & Ruth* in *Religious Studies Review*. Forthcoming.
- 2020 Graham S. Ogden and Lynell Zogbo, *A Handbook on Judges* in *Religious Studies Review* 46.1 (March 2020): 80–81.
- 2019 Marianne Grohmann and Hyun Chul Paul Kim, eds., *Second Wave Intertextuality and the Hebrew Bible* in *Religious Studies Review* 45.4 (December 2019): 511.
- 2019 Nevada Levi DeLapp, *Theophanic Type-Scenes: in the Pentateuch: Visions of YHWH* in *Religious Studies Review* 45.1 (March 2019): 63–64.
- 2018 Walter Brueggemann, *Money and Possessions* in *Religious Studies Review* 44.2 (June 2018): 216–17.
- 2018 Nyasha Junior, *An Introduction to Womanist Biblical Interpretation* in *Religious Studies Review* 44.2 (June 2018): 217–18.
- 2018 Terry Lindvall, *God Mocks* in *Religious Studies Review*. *Religious Studies Review* 44.2 (June 2018): 218.
- 2018 Joy Schroeder, trans. and ed., [*The Book of Jeremiah*](#) in *Review of Biblical Literature* (May 2018).
- 2015 James Crenshaw, *Qohelet: The Ironic Wink* in *Religious Studies Review* 41.4 (Dec. 2015): 189.
- 2013 Hanna Liss and Manfred Oeming, eds., *Literary Construction of Identity in the Ancient World* in *Religious Studies Review* 39.2 (June 2013): 102–03.
- 2013 Randall Heskett and Brian Irwin, eds., *The Bible as a Human Witness to Divine Revelation: Hearing the Word of God Through Historically Dissimilar Traditions* in *Religious Studies Review* 39.2 (June 2013): 102.
- 2010 James T. Sparks, *The Chronicler's Genealogies: Towards an Understanding of 1 Chronicles 1–9* in *Religious Studies Review* 36.2 (June 2010): 145.
- 2009 Michael D. Coogan, *A Brief Introduction to the Old Testament: The Hebrew Bible in Its Context* in *Religious Studies Review* 35.4 (Dec. 2009): 259.
- 2009 Susan Gillingham, *Psalms Through the Centuries: Volume One* in *Religious Studies Review* 35.4 (Dec. 2009): 260.

INVITED PRESENTATIONS AND PANELS

- 2021 “Biblical Interpretation and Jonah.” Bethany Presbyterian Church. Grants Pass, OR. January 2021.

- 2020 “Advent, Isaiah, and Our Jewish Neighbors.” Bethany Presbyterian Church. Grants Pass, OR. December 2020.
- 2020 “There’s More than One Way to Read the Bible.” Community United Methodist Church. Naperville, IL. February 2020.
- 2019 “Allusions in Jeremiah 34: Speaking Truth to Enslaving Powers.” Community United Methodist Church. Naperville, IL. November 2019.
- 2018 Response to Florian Klug’s “The Iconic Being of the Scripture: The Surplus of the Bible.” North Central College. Naperville, IL. February 21, 2018.
- 2017 “Reconceptualizing the Cracks.” North Central College Breakfast. Northern Illinois Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church. June 6, 2017.
- 2016 “Hijab, Higher Education, and Religious Harmony: An Interfaith Dialogue on Larycia Hawkins and Wheaton College.” North Central College. Naperville, IL. February 2, 2016.
- 2015 “Human Trafficking, Forced Migrations, and the Bible.” Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting. November 23, 2015.

CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

Presentations

- 2020 “Troubling Text Criticism and the Deuteronomistic History.” Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting. Postponed until 2021.
- 2019 “Slavery and the Sword: An Intertextual Reading of Jeremiah 34.” Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting. November 25, 2019.
- 2018 “Re-reading Samson’s ‘Weepy Wife’ in Judges 14: An Intertextual Evaluation of Gender and Weeping.” Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting. November 17, 2018.
- 2017 “The Women Who Saw God.” Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting. November 19, 2017.
- 2014 “Sub-creation and Procreation as the Imago Dei: Tolkien and Genesis in Dialogue.” Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting. November 24, 2014.
- 2014 “Getting to Know You in the Biblical Sense.” Society of Biblical Literature West Coast Region Conference. March 30, 2014.
- 2013 “Castrating Cushites and (Con)texts.” Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting. November 25, 2013.
- 2013 “Who Wrote Isaiah 6 and Why? A Redaction Critical Survey and Interpretation.” Society of Biblical Literature West Coast Region Conference. March 25, 2013.

- 2013 “Castrating Cushites and (Con)texts.” Sixth Annual Religions in Conversation Conference, Claremont Graduate University. February 22, 2013.
- 2012 Response to Beau Harris, “May I Approach the Whirlwind, Your Honor? Contexts for Translating and Hearing Job’s Final Words.” The Inaugural Hebrew Bible Research Colloquium, Claremont School of Theology. April 27, 2012.
- 2011 “Psalm 151 as Sacred Scripture at Qumran.” Society of Biblical Literature West Coast Region Conference. March 26, 2011.
- 2010 “MT, 4QSam^a, and the Greek Texts of 1 Samuel 1.24-25 as Distinct Textual Traditions.” Society of Biblical Literature West Coast Region Conference. March 15, 2010.
- 2009 “Evil Kings and Their Divinely Murdered Children: A Didactic and Symbolic Paradigm Shift in Exodus 12:29–42, 2 Samuel 12:15b–23, and 1 Kings 14:1–18.” Society of Biblical Literature West Coast Region Conference. March 23, 2009.

POPULAR WRITING

- 2019 Contributor. *The Feminism Book: Big Ideas Simply Explained*. DK Publishing: London and New York: 2019.
- 2018 Contributor. *The Bible Book: Big Ideas Simply Explained*. DK Publishing: London and New York: 2018.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE TO NORTH CENTRAL COLLEGE

- 2020–2021 BIPOC Faculty Retention Committee
- 2019 Hiring Committee for Environmental Studies Faculty
- 2018– Promotion and Tenure Committee
- 2018– 12:5 Community Worship Committee
- 2017– Q Commons Committee
- 2015– Interdisciplinary Studies Faculty (IDEA, MENA, GSST, ENVI)
- 2017–2018 College Scholars Committee
- 2017 GE Task Force Sub-Committee: Cumulative Experience

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE IN BIBLICAL STUDIES WITH OFFICES HELD

- 2017– Oxford University Press, reviewer
- 2017– Society of Biblical Literature, Intertextuality and the Hebrew Bible Co-Chair
- 2015–2018 Claremont Press, Studies in Hebrew Bible/Old Testament Monograph Series, Editorial Board
- 2008–2020 Society of Biblical Literature, member
- 2010–2012 Society of Biblical Literature, Student Representative Liaison
- 2008–2010 Society of Biblical Literature, CGU Student Representative

HONORS, AWARDS, AND GRANTS

- 2019 Faculty Development and Recognition Committee Summer Grant (\$3,737)
- 2018 Faculty Development and Recognition Committee Summer Grant (\$3,720)

- 2017 Junior Faculty Enhancement Grant, North Central College (6 credit release)
- 2008 President's Award for Academic Excellence, Claremont School of Theology
- 2008 Award for Excellence in Biblical Studies, Claremont School of Theology
- 2008 The Responsible Social Engagement Award, Claremont School of Theology
- 2004 Outstanding Senior Award in Biblical Studies, Azusa Pacific University
- 2004 Laudamas Award for Distinguished Library Service, Azusa Pacific University

SCHOLARSHIPS AND FELLOWSHIPS

- 2008–2010 Hebrew Bible Fellowship, Claremont Graduate University
- 2000–2004 President's Scholarship, Azusa Pacific University

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2020– North Central College, Assistant Professor of Religious Studies
 - Introduction to World Religions
 - Introduction to the Bible
 - Introduction to Judaism
 - Peace and Violence in the Bible
 - Women and the Bible
 - Bible Seminar
 - Nature & Wellbeing
 - Honors Topics (Biblical Lament Literature, Short Stories by Jesus)
- 2017–2020 North Central College, Assistant Professor of Religious Studies
 - World Religions
 - Judaism
 - Introduction to the Bible
 - Old Testament
 - New Testament
 - Violence, War, and Peace in the Bible
 - Bible Seminar
 - Evolution of God
 - History of Ideas
 - Sex, Gender, and Sexuality
 - Theories of Gender and Sexuality
- 2015–2017 North Central College, Visiting Assistant Professor of Religious Studies
 - World Religions
 - History of Ideas
 - Sex, Gender, and Sexuality
 - Introduction to the Bible
 - Old Testament
 - New Testament
 - Violence, War, and Peace in the Bible
 - Evolution of God
- 2014–2015 Azusa Pacific University, Visiting Assistant Professor of Biblical Studies
 - Hebrew Poetical and Wisdom Literature (traditional and online)
 - Luke-Acts (traditional and online)

Women in Biblical Tradition
Christian Classics
Hebrew

- 2013–2014 Claremont School of Theology, Lecturer
Biblical Hebrew (hybrid)
- 2009–2014 Azusa Pacific University, Lecturer
Introduction to Biblical Literature: Exodus-Deuteronomy
Freshman Writing
- 2009–2010 Claremont School of Theology, Teaching Assistant
Teaching the Bible in Context
Basic Aspects of the Study of the Hebrew Bible
- 2008–2010 ELS Educational Services, Instructor
English as a Second Language
- 2003–2004 Azusa Pacific University, Tutor and Teaching Assistant
Introduction to Philosophy
History of Early Modern Philosophy
Philosophy of Religion

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Hebrew Bible/Old Testament, prophets, Jeremiah, intertextuality, biblical theology, textual criticism, feminist criticism, gender theory, history of the ancient Near East, post-Shoah studies

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2007–2009 Research Assistant to Marvin Sweeney, Claremont School of Theology
2006–2008 Research Assistant to Kristin De Troyer, Claremont School of Theology

RESEARCH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY

Full proficiency	Biblical Hebrew and Greek
Intermediate	Aramaic and French
Basic	German, Spanish, and Akkadian

REFERENCES

Available upon request.