

Tim Hartman, PhD

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Academic Positions

Associate Professor of Theology COLUMBIA THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY	2020-present
Assistant Professor of Theology COLUMBIA THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY	2014-2020
Instructor, Department of Religious Studies UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA	2013-2014

Education

PhD	UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA , Religious Studies (Theology, Ethics, & Culture)	May 2014
M.A.	UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA , Department of Religious Studies	Dec 2012
M.Div.	PRINCETON THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY	May 2000
B.A.	STANFORD UNIVERSITY , History with honors	June 1995

Fellowships and Awards

WABASH CENTER FOR TEACHING AND LEARNING IN THEOLOGY AND RELIGION SMALL PROJECT GRANT: "TEACHING INTERCULTURAL INTELLIGENCE"	2024-25
LOUISVILLE INSTITUTE SABBATICAL GRANT FOR RESEARCHERS	2018-19
WABASH CENTER FOR TEACHING AND LEARNING IN THEOLOGY AND RELIGION Fellowship: "Teaching Theology and Theological Reflection at CTS"	2017-18
LOUISVILLE INSTITUTE DISSERTATION FELLOWSHIP	2013-14
CHARLOTTE W. NEWCOMBE, Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship Finalist	2013
INSTITUTE OF THE HUMANITIES AND GLOBAL CULTURES, Clay Award in the Humanities	2013
VIRGINIA FOUNDATION FOR THE HUMANITIES, Public Humanities Fellowship	2013
THEOLOGICAL HORIZONS, Goodwin Prize for Excellence in Theological Writing, <i>First Place</i>	2011
UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA, Charles Bryant Fund Doctoral Fellowship	2009-13
PRINCETON THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY, Presbyterian Leadership Award	1997-2000

Publications

Books

Chosen for What?: Decolonizing Divine Election (under contract with Fortress Press, forthcoming in 2028)

Kwame Bediako: African Theology for a World Christianity (Carlisle, UK: Langham Publications, 2021), and (Minneapolis, USA: Fortress Press, 2022).

Named one of “Ten Outstanding Books in Mission Studies, Intercultural Theology, and World Christianity for 2021” *International Bulletin of Mission Research* 46:2 (2022): 276.

One of 10 theology books to watch for in February 2022 by the Englewood Review of Books (<https://englewoodreview.org/ten-theology-books-to-watch-for-february-2022/3/>)

Reviewed in *International Bulletin of Mission Research* (April 2022), *Religious Studies Review* (June 2022 and Oct 2023), *Journal of the Evangelical Missiological Society* (Oct 2022), *Evangelical Review of Theology* (Nov 2022), *Journal of Theology for Southern Africa* (Nov 2022), *Exchange* (2023), *Christian Century* (March 23, 2023), *Journal of African Christian Biography* (Apr 2023), and *Studies in World Christianity* (July 2023)

Theology After Colonization: Kwame Bediako, Karl Barth, and the Future of Theological Reflection (South Bend: University of Notre Dame Press, 2020).

First place, Catholic Press Association awards, Faithful Citizenship/Religious Freedom category
Reviewed in *Modern Theology* (January 2021), *International Bulletin of Mission Research* (Jan 2021), *Theology Today* (April 2021), and *Journal of Theology for Southern Africa* (2021)

Peer-reviewed articles and book chapters

“‘Africa...leads the way’: Kwame Bediako’s understanding of the remaking of Christian theology” in *Evangelical Christianity and Transformation of Africa*, ed. Jacob K. Olupona (Georgetown University Press, 2025), 379-392.

“A church for the future?”: Dietrich Bonhoeffer’s late ecclesiology in conversation with Mercy Oduyoye, Teddy Sakupapa, and Vuyani Vellem in *Bonhoeffer and the Responsibility for a Coming Generation: Doing Theology in a Time Out of Joint*, eds. Robert Vosloo, Teddy Sakupapa, Karola Radler and Ashwin Thyssen (T&T Clark, 2024), 328-338.

“Flourishing for *All*: Chosenness and Divine Election in James Cone and Karl Barth” *Black Theology* 21:2 (2023): 155-167.

“Karl Barth” in *T&T Clark Handbook to Theological Anthropology*, eds. Mary Ann Hinsdale and Stephen Okey (London: T&T Clark/Bloomsbury, 2020).

“Humanity and Destiny: a theological comparison of Karl Barth and African Traditional Religions” in *Karl Barth and Comparative Theologies*, eds. Christian Collins Winn and Martha Moore-Keish (New York: Fordham University Press, 2019), 228-247.

“African religions as ‘Parables of the Kingdom’: Karl Barth and Kwame Bediako on Revelation and Culture” *Stellenbosch Theological Journal* 5:1 (July 2019): 93-109.

“An Act of Theological Négritude: Kwame Bediako on African Christian Identity” in *Religion, Culture and Spirituality in Africa and the African Diaspora*, eds. William Ackah, Jualynne E. Dodson, and R. Drew Smith (Routledge, 2018), 81-95.

“The Promise of an Actualistic Pneumatology: Beginning with the Holy Spirit in African Pentecostalism and Karl Barth” *Modern Theology* 33:3 (July 2017): 333-347.

“Lost in Translation: Postcolonial Reflections on ‘The Panare killed Jesus Christ’” *Cross Currents* 63:3 (September 2013): 328-349.

Other articles

“Review of Torrance, Alan J., and Andrew B. Torrance. *Beyond Immanence: The Theological Vision of Kierkegaard and Barth*” *Theology Today* (forthcoming 2025)

“Review of Samantha Miller’s *John Chrysostom and African Charismatic Theology in Conversation*” for *International Bulletin of Mission Research* 47:2 (April 2023): 288-289.

“Review of *The Breadth of Salvation: Rediscovering the Fullness of God’s Saving Work* by Tom Greggs” for *Theology Today* 79:1 (2022): 83-84.

“Review of David Tonghou Ngong’s *Expansive New History of African Christian Thought*” for *Religion and its Publics*,

<http://relpubs.as.virginia.edu/review-of-david-tonghou-ngongs-expansive-new-history-of-african-christian-thought-by-tim-hartman/>

“Review of *Reading Theologically* by Eric D. Barreto” *Interpretation: A Journal of Bible and Theology* 70:4 (October 2016): 511.

“Response to Safwat Marzouk’s essay on ‘The Bible and Empire’” *@ This Point: Theological Investigations in church and culture* (May 2016). <https://www.ctsnet.edu/at-this-point/>

“The Depth and Breadth of Emergence Christianity: A Theological and International Perspective” *Currents in Theology and Mission* 42:2 (April 2015): 97-104.

“Synkretismen nah und fern: Betrachtungen zur christlichen Identität inmitten von Pluralismus” *SaThZ (Salzburger Theologische Zeitschrift)* 19:1 (2015): 24-38.

“Joy Made Complete: In Memory of Steve Hayner” *Vantage* 106:2 (Winter 2015): 10-12.

God Here & Now: Center for Barth Studies Substack (online)

“The Church Ready to Leap: A Reflection on Gathering, Upbuilding, and Sending” (Sept. 2, 2025)

“Lamb of God: Power in the Crucified and Risen Jesus Christ” (June 10, 2025)

“On Vocation: Elected with a Task” (May 13, 2025)

“Proximity: Psychological, Theological, and Practical with Barth, Jennings, and Stevenson” (March 24, 2025)

“A New Year Celebrating the Concrete Love of God” (January 20, 2025)

“Forgiveness and Chosen Amnesia: Theology and Community After Genocide” (Nov 19, 2024)

“Politicized Imagination: On Christian Identity, the 20th-Century Rwandan Genocide, and the Vices of ‘Christian’ Nationalism” (August 12, 2024)

“Anticipating Joy: Human gratitude as seen in Acts 8, Karl Barth, and South African liberation” (June 10, 2024)

“Jesus is not a Blood Donor: On Christian Hymnody, the Crucifixion, and the Gift of the Holy Spirit” (April 16, 2024)

- “A Heavenly Banquet Table: Imagining Barth's Universal Atonement and Election... without Salvation” (March 25, 2024)
- “ ‘No Wizard Behind the Curtain’: The Incarnation and the Not-So-Hidden God” (December 4, 2023)

Selected Conference Presentations

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| “Apartheid as white Christian Nationalism: Divine Election failing its task” at Kairos 40 th Anniversary Gathering, Desmond Tutu Centre for Religion and Social Justice, University of the Western Cape, Cape Town, South Africa | 2025 |
| “Election in Context: Barth and Cone on God’s favor and its effects” at “Karl Barth and James Cone: Theology in Context” hosted by the Cambridge University Faculty of Divinity and the Oxford Centre for Religion & Culture, Regent’s Park College, University of Oxford. At Cambridge University, England | 2022 |
| “Kwame Bediako and the Reformed Tradition today” (plenary presentation), “Mirrors and Windows: Reflecting on the Reformed Tradition today,” Stellenbosch University | 2022 |
| “ ‘Black Men reading the White Man’s books’?: The Basel Mission, Returnees from Jamaica, and the legacy of Christianity in the Gold Coast,” Afterlives of Slavery Conference, University of Liberia, Monrovia, Liberia | 2022 |
| “A Theology of ‘Nondominating Power’: Kwame Bediako on Politics,” Stott-Bediako Forum INFEMIT, at Aurel Vlaicu University, Arad, Romania | 2022 |
| “Hospitality in Post-Christian America: What North Americans can learn from religious pluralism in Africa” The Sanneh Institute, University of Ghana, Legon | 2020 |
| “ ‘A church for the future?’: Bonhoeffer’s late ecclesiology in conversation with African Christianity” International Bonhoeffer Congress, Stellenbosch University, S. Africa | 2020 |
| “ ‘Theology cannot go on subsisting on the legacy of rented pews’: Sanneh’s Legacy of Translation and Collaboration amid the Changing Face of World Christianity,” American Academy of Religion, African Association for the Study of Religion, San Diego, CA | 2019 |
| “What is the future of Christian Theology?” Desmond Tutu Centre for Religion and Social Justice, University of the Western Cape, Cape Town, South Africa | 2018 |
| “African religions as ‘parables of the Kingdom’?: Karl Barth and Kwame Bediako on Revelation and Culture” International Karl Barth Conference, Stellenbosch University, Cape Town, South Africa | 2018 |
| “ ‘What Happened to Me?’: Revisiting Kwame Bediako’s theological contributions one decade later,” Theological Society of South Africa Annual meeting, Pietermaritzburg | 2018 |

“Can Africa save Christianity?: Kwame Bediako’s understanding of the remaking of Christian theology” at ‘Currents, Perspectives and Methodologies in World Christianity’ conference, Princeton Theological Seminary	2018
“‘The Emergence of World Christianity and the Remaking of Theology’: Reading Kwame Bediako in the West” The Africa Christian Scholarship Consultation, Fuller Theological Seminary, Pasadena, CA	2017
“The Promise of an Actualistic Pneumatology: Beginning with the Holy Spirit in African Pentecostalism and Karl Barth,” 2016 Karl Barth Conference, Princeton, NJ	2016
“Teaching Theology and Religion in the Twenty-First Century: Challenges, Prospects, and the PhD,” a Wabash Center-sponsored symposium at the University of Virginia	2015
“A Failure of Imagination: The intersection of gospel and culture today” Open and Relational Theologies group <i>American Academy of Religion</i> . Baltimore, MD	2013
“Are We All Syncretists?: Rethinking Christian identity with Barth and Bediako” World Christianity group <i>American Academy of Religion</i> . Baltimore, MD	2013
“The Power of the Dead among the Living: Reckoning with Jesus as Ancestor” African Biblical Hermeneutics group <i>Society for Biblical Literature</i> . Baltimore, MD	2013
“World Christianity and the United States” <i>MESA: a global conversation among emerging Christian leaders</i> . Pattaya, Thailand	2013
“On the future of African theology: Kwame Bediako’s non-hybridized Christian identity” <i>Transatlantic Roundtable on Religion and Race</i> : Accra, Ghana	2013
“Translatability as Jesus is the Light of the World” Joint section ‘Black Cultures and the Study of Religion’ and ‘Constructive Theologies’ <i>Southeastern Commission for the Study of Religion</i> . Greenville, SC	2013
“Lost in Translation: Postcolonial Reflections on “The Panare killed Jesus Christ”” Comparative Theologies group <i>American Academy of Religion</i> . Chicago, IL	2012
“(Ir)responsible Guilt: Bonhoeffer’s <i>Ethics</i> and Postcolonial Critique” <i>Eleventh International Bonhoeffer Congress</i> . Sigtuna, Sweden	2012
“National Leaders and Scholars of the Emerging Church: A Panel” <i>Society for the Sociology of Religion</i> . Atlanta, GA	2010

Courses Taught

Christian Theology 1

Christian Theology 2

Reformed Theology

Theology and Community: A Lived Theology Approach (masters and advanced degrees)

Theology of Karl Barth
 Jesus Christ in Global Perspective
 Intercultural Intelligence
 Introductory Seminar—Masters of Arts in Theological Studies degree
 Contextual Immersions—Kenya
 Explorations—Atlanta: Immigrant and Refugee focus
 Explorations—Ghana
 Explorations—South Africa
 Contextual Immersions—Borders and Immigration in Tucson, AZ and Atlanta
 Introduction to Gospel and Culture (DMin)
 Reading Karl Barth for Ministry (DMin)
 Antiracist Theologies (DMin/DEdMin)
 Business, Ethics, and Society, *University of Virginia*

Supervision of Theses

In-progress

Zachary Bay, “Pastor as Chronicler: A Pastoral Identity for Pastoral Longevity,”
 DMin project, first reader
 Drew Ditzel, “Off the Mainline: A grafted understanding of pastoral ministry in the PC(USA),”
 DMin project, first reader
 Brandon Moore, “Curriculum for faith formation of pastors in the AME Zion Church,” DEdMin
 project, second reader
 Arnold Ogunmoyero, “Multiethnic Churches led by African Pastors: Principles and Practices,”
 DMin project, first reader
 Rachel Pedersen, “Between Building and Belonging: Exploring the Metaphors and Meaning of the
 Church with Early Elementary Students,” DEdMin project, second reader
 David Roth, “Refugee Readings of Scriptural Texts,” DMin project, first reader

Completed

Morgan Whitfield, “Learning Biblical Theology about Poverty for Transformation in the
 Congregation,” DMin project, first reader (2025)
 Curtis White, “Becoming God People: Missional Participation as Catalyst for Church
 Revitalization,” DMin project, first reader (2025)
 Alycia LaFavor, “Exploring the Difference Between Divine Creation and Human Participation in
 God’s Creative Work Through Language,” MA(TS) final independent study (2025)
 Sarah Powell, “Exploring the Leadership of the First Jamaican Women to be Appointed as
 Presidents and Ordained as Presidents, Bishops, and/or Pastors in their Denominational
 Churches in Jamaica, West Indies” DMin project, second reader (2023)
 Allysen Schaaf, “Reimagining Christian Mission: Developing postcolonial practices of mission in a
 congregational setting,” DMin project, first reader (2023)
 Andria (Giorgi) Saria, “Political theology: A (Georgian) Orthodox theological response to the
 Russian invasion of Ukraine,” ThM thesis, 2nd reader (2023)
 Aimée Appell, “In, With, and Under: Preaching To Interrupt White Supremacy,” DMin final
 project, first reader (2023)
 Sylvester Donkoh, “The Practice of Discipleship in the Cape Coast District of the A.M.E. Zion
 Church in Ghana,” MA(TS) final independent study (2022)
 Michael York, “Experiences of Church-Community in a Global Pandemic” DMin project,

first reader (2021)
 Peter Thompson, “Christian Worship and the Communal Practice of Sports: A Relationship from the Perspective of Families of First Presbyterian Church of Lynchburg, Virginia,” DMin project, second reader (2021)
 Caitlyn Jones, “Flesh, Faith, and Reason: Pride and Purity in Edmund Spenser’s *The Faerie Queene*” MDiv Honors Project (2019-2020)
 AJ Shortley, “Autonomy Doesn’t Work: Religious Epistemology and Paul’s Vision of the Purposes of God,” ThM thesis (2017-18)
 Ross Boone, “How A Suffering World is better than not,” MA(ThS) final independent study (2017)
 Brittany Fiscus-van Rossum, “Reconciliation in Action,” MDiv Honors Project (2016-2017)

Professional Training

<i>Auburn Aegis Trust Religious Leader Cohort</i> , a 20-person cohort of Christian, Jewish, and Muslim leaders from congregational, academic, and nonprofit sectors to participate in “Listening and Leading: The Art and Science of Peace, Resilience, and Transformational Justice” in Kigali, Rwanda	2024
<i>Becoming a White Antiracist Educator</i> , yearlong workshop Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning in Theology and Religion	2023
<i>Certificate in Inclusive Pedagogy</i> AAR/Committee on the Status of People with Disabilities in the Profession	2022
<i>Digital Salon – Vocational Trajectories for Mid-Career Theological School Educators</i> Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning in Theology and Religion	2020-2021
<i>Teaching and Learning Workshop for Early Career Theological School Faculty</i> Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning in Theology and Religion	2016-2017
<i>Mellon Graduate Teaching Seminar for Excellence in the Humanities</i> , Univ. of Virginia training in teaching writing to undergraduates across the curriculum	2012-2013
<i>Tomorrow’s Professor Today</i> , Teaching Resource Center, University of Virginia a two-year professional development program	2010-2012

Affiliations

DESMOND TUTU CENTRE FOR RELIGION AND SOCIAL JUSTICE, DEPARTMENT OF
 RELIGION AND THEOLOGY, UNIVERSITY OF THE WESTERN CAPE
Visiting Scholar, Cape Town, South Africa
 AKROFI-CHRISTALLER INSTITUTE OF THEOLOGY, MISSION AND CULTURE
Visiting Researcher, Akropong-Akuapem, Ghana
 AFRICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF RELIGION, *co-chair AAR section*, 2019-2024
 KARL BARTH SOCIETY OF NORTH AMERICA
 AMERICAN ACADEMY OF RELIGION
 INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY, peer reviewer

MODERN THEOLOGY, peer reviewer
STUDIES IN WORLD CHRISTIANITY, peer reviewer
STELLENBOSCH THEOLOGICAL JOURNAL, peer reviewer
OPEN THEOLOGY, peer reviewer
JOURNAL OF RELIGION IN AFRICA, peer reviewer
IRISH THEOLOGICAL QUARTERLY, peer reviewer
@ this point, Editorial Board, Columbia Theological Seminary
MINISTER OF WORD AND SACRAMENT, Presbyterian Church (USA)

Selected Professional Experience

NEXT GENERATION, Baltimore Presbytery, Baltimore, MD, <i>Organizing Pastor</i>	2004-2009
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF HOLLYWOOD, Los Angeles, CA, <i>Associate Pastor</i>	2000-2004