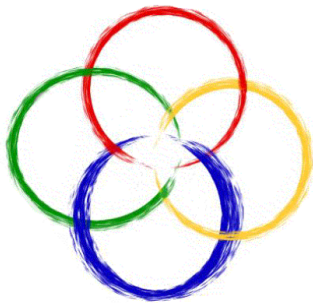


Craig S. Pesti-Strobel, Ph.D.

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www.conspiritu.org



CURRICULUM VITAE

EDUCATION

Graduate Theological Union, Ph.D. 2001
Pacific School of Religion, Master of Arts, 1986
Pacific School of Religion, Master of Divinity, 1986
Yale Divinity School, 1982
Willamette University, Bachelor of Science (Biology), 1980
Willamette University, Bachelor of Theatre, 1980
Cerro Gordo Center for Creative Community, 1977

DISSERTATION:

Performance, Religious Imagination, and the Play of the Land in the Study of Deep Ecology and Its Practices

An online version of the dissertation can be found at:
<http://www.conspiritu.org/>

COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION AREAS:

- ❖ Course Design: *A Performative Approach to the Comparative Study of Religions*
- ❖ Performance Class: *Performing Jeremiah, A Performed Interpretation of a Biblical Text*
- ❖ History and Development of Performance Theory and Practice
- ❖ Interrelationships Between Religion and the Arts
- ❖ Problems and Issues in Intercultural Performance: *Peter Brook, The Mahâbhârata and Intercultural Performance*

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- ❖ Religious and Wisdom Cultures Across the World
- ❖ Critical Approaches to Studying Religion and Modern Culture
- ❖ Visual Arts and Literature as Expression of Religious Visions
- ❖ Religious Imagination and the Creation of Cultural Worlds
 - ❖ Religion and the Arts as the Articulation of Culture

Religion is an interwoven system of ideas, attitudes and practices which binds a people together in a shared understanding of the way the world is constituted and which governs the values, activities and range of behaviors of that people.

Craig S. Pesti-Strobel

Humane knowing - the knowledge of (person) by (person) - is an exercise in the meeting between persons, be it across the centuries or across the world. .. (Persons) cannot know (other persons) except in mutuality: in respect, trust, and equality, if not ultimately love.

Wilfred Cantwell Smith

- ❖ Interdisciplinary Collaboration in Teaching and Research
 - ❖ The Place of Nature in the Religions of the World

TEACHING INTERESTS

- ❖ Religion and Culture
 - ❖ Imagination, Performance, and Self-Expression
- ❖ Encountering Religious Worlds in Spiritual Autobiography
 - ❖ World Wisdom Traditions and Personal Philosophy
 - ❖ Issues, Problems, Strategies in the Study of Religions
 - ❖ Religious Traditions and Complexes: Islam, Buddhism, Hinduism
- ❖ Modern Culture and Religious Worlds
- ❖ Religious Imagination, Cultural Creativity and Social Change
 - ❖ World Religions and the Environment
 - ❖ The Mahâbhârata in Literature and Performance
 - ❖ Cultural Change and the Search for Meaning

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Instructor, *Loving Wisdom*, Enterprise, Oregon, 2009
- Instructor, *Getting It Together*, Enterprise, Oregon, 2008
- Instructor, *English Composition 122*, Fishtrap/Eastern Oregon University, 2006
- Instructor, *English Composition 121*, Fishtrap/Eastern Oregon University, 2005
- Instructor, *Peace and Non-violence*, Eastern Oregon University, 2005
- Instructor, *A Brief Investigation of Islam*, Eastern Oregon University, 2003
- Instructor, Adult Education Programs in Religion in Rural Communities, Oregon, 1984-1991, 1998-Present
- Leitung, *Performance Hermeneutics*, Seminar, Evangelisches Studienwerk, Villigst, Germany, 1996
- Instructor, *Performing Jeremiah*, Graduate Theological Union, 1995
- Teaching Assistant, *Worship and the Arts* (Doug Adams), Pacific School of Religion, 1992, 1993
- Instructor, Oregon Driver Training Institute, 1992, 1993
- Teaching Assistant, *Introduction to the Study of Religion* (Douglas McGaughey), Willamette University, 1991

PAPERS AND PRESENTATIONS

- Theologian-in-Residence - Music, Art, Drama, Dance Camp – Oregon-Idaho Annual Conference, United Methodist Church:
 - 1989 (5 sessions): "*The Spirit in the Arts*"
 - 1990 (5 sessions): "*Godspell and the Parables of Jesus*"
 - 1991 (5 sessions): "*St. Francis and Missa Gaia*"
- American Academy of Religion - Western Region:
 - 1998 Meeting (Claremont): "*Body Contact: An Ecological Epistemology*"
 - 1999 Meeting (San Francisco): "*Embodying Nature: An Experience in Deep Ecology*"

2001 Meeting (Claremont): "Played by the Land: Deep Ecology/Council of All Beings"

American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting:
1999 Meeting (Boston): "*Body Contact: An Ecological Epistemology*"
2000 Meeting (Nashville): "*Embodying Nature: An Experience in Deep Ecology*"

Oregon-Idaho Training Program for Lay Ministers Assigned to the Local Church, Sept. 12, 1999 (Suttle Lake, Oregon): "Worship: Reflection and Praxis"

Oregon-Idaho Gathering of Elders, Oct. 4, 2000 (Bend, Oregon): "From the Heart of Compassion: Threads from the World's Religions"

Enterprise, Oregon, April, 2007: Panel member, "The Role of Religion in Establishing Global Peace"

PUBLICATIONS: Journals and Books

Review of *Nature and Psyche*, in *Environmental Practice*, May 2002
Entries for the *Encyclopedia of Nature and Religion* 2005:
"The Institute for Deep Ecology"
"Planetary Dance"
"Joanna Macy"

Works in Progress

Books: *Transitus* (a work of speculative religio-spiritual-science fiction)
Becoming a Man after Jesus' Heart: The Spirituality of Jesus for His Male Disciples
Journey to the Heart of God: Living the Love-Infused Life of Jesus Today
Getting It Together: Charting a Path for Wisdom Amid Life's Traumas
Seeking Sophia: An Interdisciplinary Approach for Cultivating Wisdom
Deep Spirit, Deep Mind, Deep Body: A Seeker's Guide

Internet Articles

The following articles are published on my website, at www.conspiritu.org

Performance Studies: Is it Real?
Peter Brook, the Mahâbhârata and Intercultural Performance
A Performative Approach to the Comparative Study of Religions
Body Contact: An Ecological Epistemology
Performance Midrash: Returning the Body to Biblical Interpretation
Embodying Nature: An Experience in Deep Ecology with Anna Halprin and Ken Otter
The Council of All Beings: Origins and Innovations of a "Re-Earthing" Ritual
Transcendence and Relationality
What is Deep Ecology?

**PROFESSIONAL
ASSOCIATIONS (Past)**

Nature Religions Scholars Network
American Academy of Religion
Society of Biblical Literature
Council of Societies for the Study of Religion
Co-Founder, *Inspiracy: Artists In and Around the Graduate
Theological Union*
Co-Founder, ConSpiritu: A Center for Cultural Creativity

**VOLUNTEER AND
COMMUNITY WORK:**

Co-Founder and Facilitator, 2Great4hate, Pocatello, Idaho, 2010-Present
Club Service Chair, Rotary Club of Wallowa County, 2006-2009
Member, Site Ministry team, Wallowa Lake Camp and Retreat Center,
2002-Present
Reader, SMART Reading Program, Joseph Elementary School, 2003-
Present
Chair of Parade, St. Patrick's Celebration, Heppner, Oregon, 2001
Heppner Chamber of Commerce, 1998-Present
Special Friend, Heppner Elementary School, 1999-2000
South Morrow County Ministerial Association, 1998-Present
Co-Chair, Religion and the Arts Section,
American Academy of Religion, Western Region, 1999-2001
South Morrow County Scholarship Committee, 1998-Present
Mentor, Berkeley Ecumenical Chaplaincy for the Homeless, 1996-1998
Founder, West Valley Emergency Services Chaplains, 1990-91
Volunteer Firefighter, Sheridan, Oregon, 1986-1991
Treasurer, West Valley Rodeo, Sheridan Oregon, 1989-1990
Treasurer, West Valley Kiwanis Club, Willamina, Oregon, 1987-1990
Church Conference Board of Camp and Retreat Ministries, 1989-91
Secretary of Site Committee, Alton L. Collins Retreat Center, 1989-91
Dean of Students Search Committee, Pacific School of Religion, 1983
Member, Admissions Committee, Pacific School of Religion, 1982-84
Member, Community Life Committee, Yale Divinity School, 1981-82
Member, Education Committee, Willamette University, 1976-77

**SKILLS AND
INTERESTS**

- ❖ Webpage design and publishing
 - ❖ Dance Performance
- ❖ Landscape and Landscape Abstract Painting (Blue Ribbon,
Wallowa County Art Festival, 2009)
 - ❖ Director and Actor in over 30 productions