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### **Academic Positions**

- 2007-present    Assistant Professor, Department of Religious Studies  
University of North Carolina at Greensboro, Greensboro, NC
- 2006-2007      Postdoctoral Fellow, Berkley Center for Religion, Peace and World Affairs  
Georgetown University, Washington, DC
- 2004-2006      Resident Fellow, The Center for Gender Studies  
University of Chicago, Chicago, IL
- Spring 2005    Instructor  
Northwestern University, Evanston, IL
- Summer 2004   Resident Fellow  
Institute for Women's Studies and Research, Tehran, Iran

### **Education**

#### University of Chicago, The Divinity School

Ph.D., Religious Ethics, 2006; M.A., Religious Studies, 2001.

*Dissertation:* "Creative Obedience: Feminist Ethics From the Rhetoric of John Paul II and Ayatollah Khomeini."

*Committee:* William Schweiker (advisor), University of Chicago; Jean Bethke Elshtain, University of Chicago; and Abdulaziz Sachedina, University of Virginia.

#### Harvard University

B.A., Government, 1996.

*Thesis (magna cum laude):* "The Workings of a Women's Human Rights Network: A Case Study of Domestic Violence in Brazil."

### **Publications**

#### Books

*Creative Conformity: The Feminist Politics of U.S. Catholic and Iranian Shi'a Women* (Washington, DC: Georgetown University Press, Feb. 2011).

*Does Human Rights Need God?* ed. E. Bucar and B. Barnett (Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2005).

#### Articles in Peer Reviewed Journals

"'Unlikely Sex Change Capitals of the World:' Trinidad, USA and Tehran, Iran as Twin Yardsticks of Homonormative Liberalism," with A. Enke, *Feminist Studies* (forthcoming, 2011).

"Bodies at the Margins: The Case of Transsexuality in Catholic and Shi'i Ethics," *Journal of Religious Ethics* 38.4 (forthcoming, 2010).

"Sexing Comparative Ethics: Bringing Forth Feminist and Gendered Perspectives," with I. Oh and G. Kao, *Journal of Religious Ethics* 38.4 (forthcoming, 2010).

- “Dianomy: Religious Women’s Moral Agency as Creative Conformity,” *Journal of American Academy of Religions* 78.3 (2010): 662-686.
- “Capacities, Skills, and the Ambiguity of Moral Excellence: Response to Aaron Stalnaker’s Virtue as Mastery,” *Journal of Religious Ethics* 38.3 (2010): 429-435.
- “Negotiation Feminist and Gender Studies,” with L. Reznik, K. Skerret, D. Whitehead, M. Farneth, and I. Oh, Roundtable Response, *Journal of Feminist Studies in Religion* 26.1 (2010): 123-142.
- “Ethical Genre in the Digital Age: The Case of Reading Weblogs in Tehran,” *Journal of the Society of Christian Ethics* 29.2 (2009): 141-156.
- “Methodological Invention as a Constructive Project: Exploring the Production of Ethical Knowledge Through the Interaction of Discursive Logics,” *Journal of Religious Ethics* 36.3 (2008): 355-373.
- “Free Speech in Weblogistan? The Off-line Consequences of On-line Discourse,” with Roja Fazaeli, *International Journal of Middle Eastern Studies* 40.3 (2008): 403-419.
- “Speaking of Motherhood: The Epideictic Rhetoric of John Paul II and Ayatollah Khomeini,” *Journal of the Society of Christian Ethics* 26.2 (2006): 93-123.

### Chapters in Books

- “The Why of Human Rights,” (with B. Barnett) in *Does Human Rights Need God?*, ed. E. Bucar and B. Barnett (Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2005), 1-21.
- “Reading the Status of Public Theologies: Rhetorical Analysis of the Media Construction of Political Islam,” In *Political Theologies: Past, Present, and Future*, ed. M. Kessler (Oxford: Oxford University Press, under contract).

### Other Articles

- “Development: Nongovernmental Organization-Iran,” *Encyclopedia of Women and Islamic Cultures*, ed. A. Joseph, vol. 4 (The Netherlands: Brill, 2006): 99-100.
- “Emergency Contraception and Catholic Hospitals,” (with D. Nolan) *Conscience* 20:1 (1999): 20-22.
- “A Clear Message: The Cairo+5 Youth Forum,” *Conscience* 20:1 (1999): 34.
- “When Catholic and Non-Catholic Hospitals Merge,” *Conscience* 19:2 (1998): 3-17.

### Book Reviews

- “Review Essay of Charles E. Curran’s *The Moral Theology of Pope John Paul II*,” *The Journal of Religion* 86:3 (2006): 484-485.

### Manuscripts In Preparation

- The Islamic Veil: A Beginner’s Guide*, book manuscript under contract with OneWorld Press, to be delivered July 2011.
- Religious Ethics in the Global Age*, co-editor (with J. Schofer and A. Stalnaker), book manuscript under contract with the Center for the Study of World Religions, to be delivered June 2011.
- “Cowboys, Mullahs, and Transsexuals, Oh My! Media Speculation on Sexual Subjectivities,” in *Religious Ethics in the Global Age*, co-editor (with J. Schofer and A. Stalnaker), under contract with the Center for the Study of World Religions, to be delivered June 2011.
- “Saving Face: Navigating Land Mines with Ritual Politeness in Iran,” article under review at *History of Religions*.
- The Good of Ambiguous Bodies: Transsexuality in Catholic and Shi’i Ethics*, book manuscript in preparation.

### **Fellowships and Awards**

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| 2010 | Summer Faculty Excellence Award, UNCG.<br>Nominee for NEH Summer Stipend.<br>Kohler International Travel Award, UNCG. |
| 2009 | Summer Faculty Excellence Award, UNCG.<br>Course Development Grant, Honors College, UNCG.                             |

- 2008 Summer Faculty Excellence Award, UNCG.  
New Faculty Award, UNCG.  
Kohler International Travel Award, UNCG.  
Nominee for NEH Summer Stipend.  
Nominee for the Carnegie Scholar Program in Islamic Studies.
- 2007 Nominee for the Carnegie Scholar Program in Islamic Studies.
- 2005-2006 Dissertation Writing Fellowship, The Center for Gender Studies, University of Chicago.
- 2004-2006 Doolittle Traveling Fellowship for Conference Presentation and Dissertation Research
- 2005 Foreign Language Enhancement Scholarship for Persian, Committee on Institutional Cooperation, Summer.
- 2005 Foreign Language Area Studies Fellowship for Persian, Ohio State University, Summer.
- 2004-2005 Martin Marty Center Dissertation Fellowship, University of Chicago.
- 2004 J. Coert Rylaarsdam Prize for Interfaith Relations, University of Chicago.
- 2004 Human Rights Internship Grant, Human Rights Program, University of Chicago.
- 2002-2003 Wabash Fellow, Chicago Forum on Pedagogy and the Study of Religion.
- 2002 Fellowship for the Study of Intensive Arabic, Middlebury College, Vermont, Summer.
- 2001-2003 Foreign Language Area Studies Fellowship for Arabic, term-time and Summer.
- 2000 Delegate, University of Chicago Human Rights Delegation to Cuba and Guatemala.
- 1999-2001 Divinity School Fellowship, University of Chicago.

## **Presentations**

### By Invitation

- “Spatial, Narrative, and Embodied Production of Ethical Values,” Respondent, American Academy of Religion, Comparative Religious Ethics Group, Atlanta, GA (forthcoming, Nov. 2010).
- “Cowboys, Mullahs, and Transsexuals, Oh My! Media Speculation on Sex Change Capitals of the World,” Workshop by invitation, Center for the Study of World Religions, Harvard Divinity School, Cambridge, MA (March 2010).
- “Cart Before Horse? Ordination of Trans Persons,” Response to Jon Paul Sydnor, Society of Christian Ethics, San Jose, CA (Jan. 2010)
- “Capacities, Skills, and the Ambiguity of Moral Excellence,” Response to A. Stalnaker lecture, Moral Worlds and Religious Subjectivities, Harvard Divinity School, Cambridge, MA (Feb. 2009).
- “What We Can Learn From Obama’s Muslim Problem,” Political Theologies, Past: Present and Future, Georgetown University, Washington, DC (Oct. 2008).
- “Weblogging in Tehran,” Keynote address, From Samizdat to Blogging: Globalization and New Forms of Political Expression, Sponsored by International Alternative Culture Center, OSA Archivum, and Central European University, Budapest, Hungary (Feb. 2008).
- “Comparing Changing Sex: A Case Study for Religious Ethics,” Workshop by invitation, Religion, Ethics, and Philosophy Group, Religious Studies Department, Florida State University, FL (Jan. 2008).
- “Good Hijab, Bad Hijab: Material Discourse at Political Participation in Iran,” Lecture by invitation, Florida State University, FL (Jan. 2008).
- “Muslim-Christian Dialogue: The Case of Marriage and Family Law,” Lecture by invitation, Notre Dame, Notre Dame, IN (April 2007).
- “Bad Hijabi Lessons for (Bad) Feminist Scholarship,” Lecture by invitation, Breaking Apart the Monolith: The Many Ways of Being Muslim, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ (March 2007).
- “Material Discourse at Political Participation in Iran,” Lecture by invitation, Georgetown University, Washington, DC (March 2007).
- “Good Hijab, Bad Hijab: Veiling as a Form of Political Dissent,” Lecture by invitation, Coe College, Cedar Rapids, IA (March 2006).
- “Human Rights and Religious Belief,” Interview with Radio Station WMUZ, Detroit, MI (Sept. 2005).
- “Ethics Within a Theocracy?” 2005 Ethics Lecture Series, University of Chicago, Chicago, IL (May 2005).

“What is Feminism?” Lecture by invitation, Governor’s Mansion, Isfahan, Iran (Aug. 2004).

### Refereed Conference Presentations

- “‘The Good’ of Ambiguous Bodies: Transsexuality in Catholic Ethics,” Second Conference of Catholic Theological Ethics and the World Church, Trento, Italy (July 2010).
- “Constructing Muslim Subjects with Liberal Illogics: Tehran as ‘The Unlikely Sex Change Capital of the World,’” Society for the Study of Muslim Ethics, San Jose, CA (Jan. 2010).
- “Saving Face: Navigating Land Mines with Ritual Politeness in Iran,” American Academy of Religion, Comparative Religious Ethics Group, Montreal Canada (Nov. 2009).
- “Ethical Genre in the Digital Age: The Case of Reading Weblogs in Tehran,” Society of Christian Ethics, Chicago, IL (Jan. 2009).
- “‘Transing’ Sex in Islam: The Case of Sex Change Operations in Iran,” American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, Religion and Sexuality Consultation, Chicago, IL (Nov. 2008).
- “Reading Weblogs in Tehran: An Emergent Genre of Religious Ethics,” American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, Ethics Section, San Diego, CA (Nov. 2007).
- “Good Hijab, Bad Hijab: The Politics of Religious Dress in Iran,” Engaging Islam: Feminisms, Religiosities, and Self-Determinations, UMass Boston, Boston, MA (Sept. 2007).
- “What ‘Good’ is Changing Sex? Considering the Case of Transsexuality in Comparative Religious Ethics,” Comparative Ethics Workshop, Society of Christian Ethics, Dallas, TX (Jan. 2007).
- “Bad Hijab and Chadori Women: The Construction of Gender Through Imperfect Obedience” American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, Contemporary Islam Consultation, Washington, DC (Nov. 2006).
- “Beyond Bully Pulpits: Charismatic Authority, Clerical Persuasion, and Comparative Religious Ethics,” American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, Comparative Religious Ethics Group, Washington, DC (Nov. 2006).
- “A Tight Rope Act Over Common Moral Ground: A Woman’s Freedom Within Obedience,” Sixth Biennial Conference on Iranian Studies, International Society for Iranian Studies and London Middle East Institute SOAS, London (Aug. 2006).
- “Between Cultural Relativism and Universal Human Rights: Reform of Custody Laws in Iran,” All in the Family: Islam, Women and Human Rights, Emory University School of Law, Atlanta, GA (March 2006).
- “Speaking of Motherhood: The Epideictic Rhetoric of John Paul II and Ayatollah Khomeini,” Society of Christian Ethics, Phoenix, AZ (Jan. 2006).
- “Talking Back in Iran: Religious Discourse, Women’s Agency, and a Rhetorical Turn,” American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, Feminist Theories Working Group, Philadelphia, PA (Nov. 2005).
- “Catholic Moral Permissibility of Emergency Contraception After Rape: A Feminist Reading,” University of Chicago Graduate Student Ethics Conference, Chicago, IL (April 2001).

### **Research Languages**

Reading proficiency and speaking knowledge of Persian.

Reading knowledge of French, German, Italian, Modern Standard Arabic, Portuguese, and Spanish.

### **Professional Affiliations**

American Academy of Religion  
International Society for Iranian Studies  
Middle Eastern Studies Association  
Society of Christian Ethics  
Society for the Scientific Study of Religion  
Society for the Study of Muslim Ethics

## **Professional Service**

American Academy of Religion, Comparative Religious Ethics Group (Chair 2011-2014; Steering Committee, 2007-2010)

*The Journal of Religion* (Reviewer, 2007-present)

*Journal of the American Academy of Religion* (Reviewer, 2008-present)

*Journal of Religious Ethics* (Reviewer, 2008-present)

*Journal for the Society of Christian Ethics* (Editorial Board, 2011-2013; Paper Evaluator, 2010; Chicago Writers Group, 2010-present)

Martin Marty Center for Religion and Public Life, The Divinity School, University of Chicago (Board of Directors, 2004-2005)

Society of Christian Ethics (Convener, 2008, 2011)

Society for the Study of Muslim Ethics (Program Committee, 2011)

## **Courses Taught**

Does Human Rights Need God?

Introduction to Islam: Concepts, Practices and Debates

Iranian Women's Human Rights

Islam and the Construction of Gender

(Re)reading Hijab: Islam, Gender, and the Politics of Dress

Thinking About Religion: Introduction to Social Scientific Approaches