

# Megan Loumagne Ulishney

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## EDUCATION

- 2019      **Doctor of Philosophy in Theology** (no corrections)  
Christ Church, University of Oxford, Oxford, UK  
*Clarendon Scholar* (full funding)
- 2015      **Masters of Divinity**  
Boston College School of Theology and Ministry, Chestnut Hill, MA  
*Baker-Arrupe Fellow* (full funding)
- 2010-2012 **Master of Arts in Spiritual Formation and Soul Care**  
Talbot School of Theology, Institute of Spiritual Formation, La Mirada, CA  
\*Partial completion
- 2007      **Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Studies**  
Biola University/Torrey Honors College, La Mirada, CA  
*Summa cum laude*  
Major: Liberal Studies, Minor: Biblical Studies  
California State Teaching Credential in English

## ACADEMIC POSITIONS

- Fall 2022-present      **Assistant Professor of Theology (tenure-track)**  
Theology Department  
Gannon University, Erie, PA
- 2019-Spring 2022      **Postdoctoral Research Fellow**  
Faculty of Theology and Religious Studies, University of Nottingham (UK)  
'God and the Book of Nature' Project (funded by the John Templeton Foundation)
- 2018-2022      **Director of Studies in Science and Religion** (part-time)  
Wycliffe Hall (SCIO), University of Oxford
- 2016-2022      **Religion and Philosophy Instructor** (part-time)  
St. Clare's Oxford International College
- 2018-2019      **Academic Coordinator**  
*Bridging the Two Cultures of Science and the Humanities II Project* (funded by the John Templeton Foundation)  
Wycliffe Hall (SCIO), University of Oxford

## RELATED EXPERIENCE

Summer 2014	Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE), Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, MA
2008-2012	Theology/English Instructor and Director of Student Activities Maranatha High School, Pasadena, CA
2007-2008	Humanities teacher Torrey Academy, La Mirada, CA

## PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

### **Monographs**

*Original Sin and the Evolution of Sexual Difference*

Oxford University Press (published in the UK in December 2022, forthcoming in the US in Feb. 2023)

### **Peer-reviewed articles**

“Gender as Context in Science and Religion: ‘Natural’ Sexual Difference as a Case Study”  
*Philosophy, Theology, and the Sciences*, (Vol. 9, Issue 2), 2022

“The Evolution of *Homo Ludens*: Sexual Selection and a Theology of Play”  
*Zygon*, (Vol. 57, Issue 3), 2022

“Visiting Iniquity Upon the Generations: Epigenetics, Systems Biology, and Theologies of Inherited Sin”  
*Philosophy, Theology, and the Sciences*, (Vol. 7, Issue 2), 2020

“Teresa of Avila on Theology and Shame”  
*New Blackfriars*, (Vol. 99, Issue 1081), 2018

“The Rise of Fundamentalisms and the Concept of Sin”  
*Studies: An Irish Quarterly Review*, (Volume 105, Number 422, 2017)

“Created Sick, Commanded to Be Sound: Augustine on Original Sin After Darwin”  
*Tijdschrift voor Theologie*, (Volume 55, 2015) (online edition)

“Taking Her Stand Beyond All Earthly Hierarchies: Teresa of Avila, Gender Performance, and Contemplative Prayer”  
*The Sword: A Journal of Historical, Spiritual, and Contemporary Carmelite Issues*, (Volume 75, 2015)

“God Remembered: Barrenness and Hope in *Genesis*”  
*Lumen et Vita Graduate Academic Journal of Boston College STM*  
(Volume 5, 2015)

“Dis-membering and Re-membering: The Eucharist and the Suffering of Women”  
*Lumen et Vita: Graduate Academic Journal of Boston College STM*  
(Volume 4, 2014)

## Contributions to edited volumes

*Oxford Handbook of Theological Anthropology*

Chapter entitled 'Theological Anthropology After Darwin'  
Oxford University Press (forthcoming)

*God and the Book of Nature*, ed. Mark Harris

Chapter entitled: 'Creaturely Agency in Evolution and Theology'  
Routledge Science and Religion Series (forthcoming in March 2023)

*Emerging Voices in Science and Theology: Contributions from Young Women*, eds. Alister McGrath and Bethany Sollereder, introduction by Nancey Murphy

Chapter entitled: 'Unity in the *Massa Peccati*: Original Sin and the Extended Evolutionary Synthesis'  
Routledge Science and Religion series, 2022

*Augustine and Time*, eds. Sean Hannan, Kim Paffenroth, John Doody

Chapter entitled: 'Augustine and the Gendered Self in Time'  
Rowman and Littlefield, 2021

*Salvation in the World: The Crossroads of Public Theology*, eds. Stephan van Erp, Christiane Alpers, Christopher Cimorelli

Chapter entitled: 'A Theologian Standing with God in the World: Developments in Schillebeeckx's Epistemology and Implications for Feminist Theology'  
Bloomsbury T&T Clark, 2017

## Online Resources

'Can evolutionary biology help to render natural law approaches to sexual ethics more affirming of non-heterosexual relationships?', *Theological Puzzles* (Issue 8, 2022), <https://www.theo-puzzles.ac.uk/2022/06/14/ulishney/>

"Report on Supporting Diversity in STEM Faculty Hiring and Retention at CCCU Institutions," SCIO (Scholarship and Christianity in Oxford, research for this report was funded by the John Templeton Foundation), September 2021. Report can be found here: <https://www.scio-uk.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/2021-Report-on-Supporting-Diversity-in-STEM-Faculty.pdf>

## WORKS IN PROGRESS

'Sexual Selection and Natural Law Ethics' (in draft form, to be submitted to *Studies in Christian Ethics*)

'Sexual Selection and Sexual Diversity' (in draft form, to be submitted for a special issue on 'Paul Feyerabend: Science, Theology, and Pluralism' in *Theology and Science* in Spring 2023)

'Gender' entry for T&T Clark Encyclopedia of Theology (invited contribution, to be submitted November 2023)

## INVITED BOOK REVIEWS

*Modern Believing* (2022)

Review of Rachel Sophia Baard's *Sexism and Sin-Talk* (Westminster John Knox Press, 2019)

*Studies in Christian Ethics* (recently submitted)

Review of Karen Kilby's *God, Evil, and the Limits of Theology* (Bloomsbury 2020)

*Perspectives on Science and the Christian Faith* (Vol. 73, 2021)

Review of *Original Sin and the Fall: Five Views* (Eds. J.B. Stump and Chad Meister)

*Philosophy, Theology, and the Sciences* (Vol. 7, Issue 2, 2020)

Review of Celia Deane-Drummond's *Theological Ethics Through a Multi-Species Lens* (Oxford University Press, 2018)

## TEACHING & ADVISING

- 2022-present      Courses taught at Gannon University
- Foundations of Theology and Christian Morality
  - Comparative Theology: Western Traditions
- 2019-2022      Courses convened at the University of Nottingham:
- Christology (MA distance learning module)
  - The Virgin Mary in Christian Tradition: History and Doctrine (MA distance learning module)
- Advising at the University of Nottingham:  
Masters Dissertations Supervised: 2
- 'Bonaventure, Creation, and Inclusion'
  - 'Penal Substitutionary Atonement as "Cosmic Child Abuse": A Christological examination of the validity of this critique'
- 2016-present      Course taught at St. Clare's, Oxford International College
- The Concept of God (undergraduate level)
- 2018-present      Courses Taught at Wycliffe Hall (SCIO), University of Oxford:
- Science and Religion
  - Science and the Christian Tradition (Online Summer Course)
  - Augustine, Early Christianity, and Late Antique Philosophy
- 2018-2022      Taught class session on Feminist and Eco-Feminist Theologies for the MPhil/MSt Seminar in Modern Theology at the University of Oxford
- Advising at Wycliffe Hall (SCIO), University of Oxford  
Undergraduate Research Essays in Science and Religion Supervised: 12

## SELECTED PRESENTATIONS AND INVITED LECTURES

Invited presenter: SCIO Science and Religion Webinar

- "Original Sin in the Context of Science and Religion," March 2023 (scheduled)
- A Webinar for CCCU faculty participating in the 'Supporting Structures in STEM' grant (funded by the John Templeton Foundation, organized by SCIO)

Invited Respondent on Science and Religion panel

- Catholic Theological Society of America (CTSA) Conference, June 2022

“For the Beauty of the Earth: Ecological Aesthetics and Theology as Resources for Global Sustainability”

- European Society for the Study of Science and Theology Conference, Alesund, Norway, May 2022.

Invited speaker: “Gender as Context in Science and Religion”

- Intercultural Theology Research Seminar, Protestant Theological University (the Netherlands), March 2022 (virtual).

Invited presenter: SCIO Science and Religion Webinar

- “Original Sin in the Context of Science and Religion,” February 2022

Invited Respondent: Thomistic Evolution Workshop

- Blackfriars, University of Oxford, October 2021

Invited Speaker: ‘The Evolution of *Homo Ludens*: Sexual Selection and a Theology of Play’

- Theology Research Seminar, University of Nottingham, October 2021

Invited Speaker: ‘Feminist Reception of Augustine’

- MA Distance Learning Residential, University of Nottingham, April 2021

Invited Speaker: ‘Feminist Reception of Augustine’

- University of Wales Trinity Saint David, February 2021

Invited Speaker: ‘Major Themes in Augustine’

- Building the Christian Church course, University of Nottingham, February 2021

Invited speaker: ‘Rethinking Theologies of Creaturely Agency’

- Modern Doctrine Research Seminar, University of Oxford, January 2021

Invited speaker: ‘Feminist Theology’

- Christianity and the Crisis of Modernity Course, University of Nottingham, March 2020

Invited speaker: ‘Vatican II’

- Christianity and the Crisis of Modernity Course, University of Nottingham, March 2020

Invited speaker: ‘Gender Trouble: Darwin and Sexual Selection as Resources for Catholic Feminist Theology’

- God and the Book of Nature Workshop, Laudato Si’ Research Institute, Oxford, March 2020

Invited speaker: ‘The Nature of Beauty: Sexual Selection and Theologies of Nature’

- Science and Religion Graduate Seminar, University of Edinburgh, February 2020

‘Evolving Desire: Sexual Selection, the Extended Evolutionary Synthesis, and Theologies of Purpose in Nature’

- Meeting of participants in the “God and the Book of Nature” project, AAR, November 2019

Invited speaker: ‘Inherited Sin: Original Sin and the Extended Evolutionary Synthesis’

- Faculty Research Seminar, University of Nottingham, October 2019

Invited Panelist, Roundtable Discussion of ‘Global Perspectives on Science and Religion’

- ‘Intersection of Science, Religion, and Culture in Africa: Past, Present, and Future Perspectives,’ Christian and Scientific Association of Kenya (CSAK) and Mount Kenya University, Nairobi, Kenya, August 2019.

Invited speaker: 'The Sex of Sin: Theologies of Sin and the Evolution of Sexual Difference'

- 'Contextuality and Universality in Science and Religion' Consultation, St. Hugh's College, University of Oxford, April 2019

Invited speaker: 'Feminist Theologies and Methodologies'

- Ripon College Cuddesdon, November 2018

Invited speaker: 'Sex and Sin in Evolution: Original Sin and the Evolution of Sexual Difference'

- Graduate Christian Forum, University of Oxford, November 2018

Invited speaker: 'Theologies of the Body: John Paul II Through a New Feminist Materialist Lens'

- University of Oxford, Modern Doctrine/Patristics Seminar, October 2018

'Shall These Bones Live? The Re-Enchantment of Nature and Theological Anthropology'

- European Society for the Study of Science and Theology, Lyon, France, April 2018

Invited speaker: 'Valerie Saiving and the Human Situation: Sin and Sexual Difference in 1960'

- University of Oxford, Modern Doctrine/Patristics Seminar, November 2017

"'Her Sex is Different from Adam's, but Her Pride is the Same:' Augustine on Original Sin and Gender"

- University of Bonn, Germany: Bonn-Oxford Faculty Exchange: September 2017

Response to Sarah Williams' *Public Sex*

- Invited respondent: Oxford Character Project 'Arts of Leading' Series: May 2017

Invited speaker: 'Sons of Adam, Daughters of Eve: Original Sin and the Evolution of Sexual Difference'

- Las Casas Institute, Blackfriars Hall, University of Oxford: May 2017

"The 'Nature' of Sexual Difference: New Materialism as a Resource"

- Society for the Study of Theology Conference: University of Nottingham, UK: April 2017

'Special Divine Action and Theological Anthropology'

- American Academy of Religion Pre-Conference Symposium, Ian Ramsey Centre for Science and Religion: November 2016

'Hamartiology and the Rise of Fundamentalisms'

- 'The Role of the Church in a Pluralistic Society: Good Influence or Good Riddance?' : Trinity College Dublin, Loyola Institute: June 2016

Invited Respondent: Response to Graham Ward's *How the Light Gets In*

- Modern Doctrine Study Day: Ertegun House, University of Oxford: June 2016

Vilma Seelaus Prize Lecture: 'Taking Her Stand Beyond All Earthly Hierarchies: Teresa of Avila, Gender Performance, and Contemplative Prayer'

- Carmelite Symposium: St. Teresa of Avila's Gift to the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: University of Saint Mary of the Lake, Mundelein, Illinois: Summer 2015

'Can Augustine Survive Natural Selection? Reading Augustine on Original Sin After Darwin'

- Colossian Forum: 'Re-Imagining the Intersection of Evolution and the Fall Conference'
- Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary, Evanston, IL: Spring 2015

- ‘Schillebeeckx and Original Sin in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: Electronic Alienation and a Healing Church’
- The Church and the Modern World Conference: Teaching and Understanding Gaudium et Spes After 50 Years: University of St. Thomas, Saint Paul, Minnesota: Spring 2015
- ‘Dangerous Crossings: Schillebeeckx, Pope Francis, and the Future of Feminist Theology’
- Edward Schillebeeckx Centenary Conference: Grace, Governance, and Globalization
  - Radboud University Nijmegen, Netherlands: Summer 2014
- ‘Taking Her Stand Beyond All Earthly Hierarchies: Teresa of Avila, Gender Performance, and Contemplative Prayer’
- New England and Canadian Maritimes American Academy of Religion Regional Meeting
  - Boston College, Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts: Spring 2014

## AWARDS AND GRANTS

August 2022-

- December 2023 John Templeton Foundation grant in the amount of \$225,000 entitled “Biocultural evolution and theological anthropology” (Co-PI with Dr. Michael Burdett, Dr. Nathan Lyons, and Dr. Victoria Lorrimar) [Grant 62619]
- 2019-2022 John Templeton Foundation ‘God and the Book of Nature’ Project
- Full-time postdoctoral research grant to participate in a £2.44 million international project organized by the University of Edinburgh.
- December 2021 Course Development Grant (University of St. Andrews and the John Templeton Foundation)
- £2000 to develop a course entitled ‘Sexual ethics in science and religion’
- June 2021 New Visions in Theological Anthropology Fellowship (University of St. Andrews and the John Templeton Foundation)
- £3500 stipend, fully funded travel and accommodation in St. Andrews.
- June 2021 SET Foundations Seminar Participant (Loyola University Maryland and the John Templeton Foundation)
- Competitively selected to participate in the *Building Foundations in Science-Engaged Theology (SET): Insights from Philosophy of Science* seminar (\$4000 honorarium).
- 2015-2018 Clarendon Scholarship, University of Oxford (full D.Phil funding with living stipend)
- 2018 Rebecca Flowers Squire Bursary, Faculty of Theology and Religion, University of Oxford
- 2015-2018 Christ Church Graduate Scholarship, University of Oxford
- 2016-2018 SCIO Doctoral Scholarship in Science and Religion  
Wycliffe Hall, University of Oxford
- 2015 *Tijdschrift voor Theologie* Essay Prize for Theology and Contemporary Culture (2<sup>nd</sup> place)
- 2012-2015 Baker-Arrupe Fellowship, Boston College School of Theology and Ministry (full tuition scholarship with living stipend)
- Spring 2015 University of Notre Dame Human Distinctiveness Project Ph.D Scholarship {Declined}
- Fall 2014 Vilma Seelaus Prize for Carmelite Writing, The Carmelite Institute
- Summer 2014 Boston College School of Theology and Ministry Grant
- Summer 2014 Edward Schillebeeckx Centenary Conference Grant
- Summer 2014 IHM Sisters Ministry Grant

## PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

Interviewed by Prof. Tom O'Loughlin (University of Nottingham) for the 'Why Study?' series (Youtube), 2021.

Theologies of Action in a Time of Crisis

- Public online event with TheoCon and the University of Edinburgh organized by Dr Sarah Lane Ritchie and Dr Tripp Fuller. Panelists included myself, Dr Grace Ji-Sun Kim, and Dr John Boopalan. July 2020

'Evolving Desire: Sexual Selection, the Extended Evolutionary Synthesis, and Theologies of Purpose in Nature'

- Public Lecture, Ian Ramsey Centre for Science and Religion, University of Oxford, March 2020

'Augustine on Human Nature'

- Public Outreach event for Theology Dept. from University of Nottingham, English Martyrs Catholic School, Leicester, UK, January 2020

Invited guest on the BBC's (television) 'The Big Questions' (May 28 2017, Series 10, Episode 19)

- Panelist addressing question 'Does Morality come from Religion or Evolution?'

## SERVICE TO ACADEMY

- 2022-2025 Moderator for Theology and Science Unit, Catholic Theological Society of America (CTSA)
- 2022 Application reviewer for SET Foundations grant applications (Loyola University Maryland and John Templeton Foundation)
- 2022 Peer reviewer for *Philosophy, Theology, and the Sciences*
- 2017 Admissions examiner, Christ Church, University of Oxford
- 2016-2017 Graduate Theological Society President, University of Oxford
- 2016-2017 Graduate Christian Forum Secretary, University of Oxford
- 2016-2017 Graduate Joint Consultative Committee, University of Oxford
- 2014-2015 Student Forum Moderator (included service on Educational Policy Committee, STM Student Forum, and Graduate Senate of Boston College)
- Boston College School of Theology and Ministry
- Summer 2013/2014 Program Assistant, Boston College School of Theology and Ministry Summer Institute
- 2013-2014 Arrupe International Immersion Program Mentor (El Salvador group)
- Boston College

## LANGUAGES

English (native speaker)

Latin, Spanish, French (reading)

## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Academy of Religion (AAR)

Society for the Study of Theology (UK)

Catholic Theological Society of America (CTSA)

European Society for the Study of Science and Theology (ESSSAT)



## **PROFESSIONAL TRAINING AND CERTIFICATIONS**

California State Preliminary Secondary Teaching Credential (English)

California Subject Exams for Teachers (CSET)- Passed both the Multiple Subject and English exams

California Basic Educational Skills Test (CBEST)-Passed

Reading Instruction Competence Assessment (RICA)-Passed

Attended Oxford University's 'Preparation for Learning and Teaching at Oxford' workshop (1 day)

Attended Oxford University's 'Developing Learning and Teaching' seminar series (8 weeks)

Acquired the SEDA PDF Support Learning Award (UK Professional Standards Framework for Teaching and Supporting Learning in Higher education, Descriptor 1) (Nationally recognized teaching qualification equivalent to Associate Fellow of the UK Higher Education Academy)

Attended Oxford University's Sexual Violence Awareness Training (1 day)