

# CURRICULUM VITAE

## NAME

Mary L. Keller, Ph. D.  
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## EDUCATION

1998 Ph. D., Religion, Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY.  
Best Dissertation, College of Arts and Sciences  
1992 M.A., Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY.  
1987 B.A., Williams College, Williamstown, MA.

## ACADEMIC POSITIONS

2023 Senior Lecturer Philosophy and Religious Studies  
Adjunct, African American and Diaspora Studies  
Adjunct, Haub School of Environment and Natural Resources  
2016-2020 Associate Academic Professional Lecturer, Religious Studies University  
of Wyoming; Adjunct, African American and Diaspora Studies,  
University of Wyoming  
2012-2016 Academic Professional Lecturer, Religious Studies, University of  
Wyoming; Adjunct, African American and Diaspora Studies,  
University of Wyoming  
2002-2012 Adjunct Professor, Religious Studies Program and African American  
Studies Program, University of Wyoming.  
2007 Spring Semester at Sea, University of Virginia Arlington, Visiting  
Professorship  
1997-2002 Lecturer in Women and Religion, University of Stirling, Stirling,  
Scotland.

## SABBATICALS\PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT LEAVE

2018-2019 Sabbatical  
2012 Fall Professional leave to develop *Souls of Wyoming* writing project  
2008 Fall Cody Institute for Western American Studies, Research Fellowship  
1999 Spring University of Stirling, Research Concentration, reduced teaching load

## UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING COMMITTEES

2022-2023 Campus Sustainability Committee  
Fall 2021-Spring 2024 University Reappointment, Tenure, and Promotion Committee  
Spring 2020 Search Committee for Buddhist Studies and American Studies position in the  
department of Philosophy and Religious Studies

## **PUBLICATIONS IN PROGRESS**

### Edited Books

Keller, Mary L. and Jennifer Ruth, eds., *Teaching Comparison: Pedagogical Perspectives as Comparative Theory in Religious Studies*, AAR/Oxford University Press *Teaching Religious Studies* series, AAR/OUP Press. In conversation with Oxford University Press after Covid delay and change of editor at OUP.

### Co-Authored Book

Keller, Mary L., Yianna Liatsos, Carol W. White. *Small States*.

## **PUBLISHED WORKS**

### **Books:**

Keller, Mary L. 2002. *The Hammer and the Flute: Women, Power and Spirit Possession*. Johns Hopkins University Press, 2002. Awarded “Best First Book in the History of Religions” at the American Academy of Religions.

### **Chapters in Edited Books:**

- Keller, Mary L. “The Indigeneity of Spirit Possession,” in *Spirit Possession: Multidisciplinary Approaches to a Worldwide Phenomenon*, eds. Éva Pócs and András Zempléni (pp. 193-211). Budapest, Vienna, New York, NY: Central European University Press, 2022.
- Lansdowne, Carmen R., Mary L. Keller, and Lisa L. Stenmark, "Indigenizing Religion and Science." In *Bloomsbury Religion in North America*. London: Bloomsbury Academic, 2021. <http://dx.doi.org/10.5040/9781350970625.003>.
- Keller, Mary L., "Non-Indigenous Scholars Studying Indigenous Knowledge." In *Bloomsbury Religion in North America*. London: Bloomsbury Academic, 2021. <http://dx.doi.org/10.5040/9781350970625.004>.
- Keller, Mary L. “Indigenous Religion: From the Origins to the Future of Religious Studies” in *Religion: MacMillan Interdisciplinary Handbooks*, ed. Jeffrey Kripal. Macmillan Reference, 2016.
- Keller, Mary L. 2015 “Spirit Possession,” *The Brill Handbook on Spiritualism and Channeling*, edited by Cathy Gutierrez, Brill Handbooks on Contemporary Religion, Vol.9.
- Keller, Mary L. 2004. “Raced and Gendered Perspectives: Towards the Epidermalization of Subjectivity in Religious Studies Theory” in *Gender, Religion and Diversity: Cross-Cultural Approaches*, Eds. Tina Beattie and Prof. Ursula King, Continuum, 79-94.
- Keller, Mary L. 2003. “La Mystérique and the Nehanda *Mhondoro*: Strengths and Limitations of the Sensible Transcendental in a Post-Colonial World of Religious Women,” in *Religion in French Feminist Thought*. Routledge, 68-82.
- Keller, Mary L. 2002. “The Skin, the Subject and the Territory of Religious Studies,” *Imaginário* 8, 173-191 (Universidade de São Paulo, Brazil, in English and Brazilian Portuguese).
- Keller, Mary L. 2001. "Bites, Houses and Loads," *Toward a Different Transcendence* Peter Lang AG--European Academic Publishers: Bern, 329-350.

### **Edited Books and Journals:**

- Pinn, Anthony B., Monica Miller, guest editors with final review by Mary L. Keller, 2009. "Special Issue: Hip-Hop and Religion," *Culture and Religion*, 10.1.
- Chester J. Fontenot, Jr., Mary L. Keller, eds. 2007. *Re-Cognizing W. E. B. Du Bois in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*. Mercer University Press.
- Johnson, Paul Christopher and Mary L. Keller, guest editors, 2006. "Special Issue: The Work of Possession(s)," *Culture and Religion*, 7.2.

#### **Refereed Journal Articles:**

- Keller, Mary L. 2021. "Engendering Nature with Three Founding Cultures." Introduction for the Special Issue: Engendering Nature *Journal for the Study of Religion, Nature and Culture*, 15.1, 5-10.
- Douglas E. Allen, Mary L. Keller, Elton G. McGoun. "Teleinvestmentevangelists: Celebrity, Ritual and Religion and the Quest to "beat the Market"." *Qualitative Research in Financial Markets* 7, no. 3 (08/03; 2015/07, 2015): 290-308. Refereed.
- Keller, Mary L. "The Sacred and Indigenous Studies," *American Indian Quarterly* 38.1, January 2014. Refereed.
- Carrette, Jeremy and Keller, Mary L. Autumn 1999. "Religion, Orientation and Critical Theory: Race, Gender and Sexuality at the 1998 Lambeth Conference," *Theology and Sexuality*, 11, 21-43. Refereed.

#### **Encyclopedia Entries**

- Keller, Mary L. 2004. "Spirit Possession and Gender," *The Encyclopedia of Religion*, 2<sup>nd</sup> Revised Edition, ed. Lindsay Jones. New York: Macmillan Reference.

#### **Non-Refereed Proceedings/Transactions:**

- Keller, Mary L. 2022. "Twenty Lessons from the Dust: W. E. B. Du Bois and Timothy Snyder as models for the God and Human Futures Seminar. Westar Institute Spring Meeting.
- Keller, Mary L. 2019. "Living in a World of Worlds: What Indigenous Religions Bring to God Talk" *The Fourth R* Westar Institute, Spring 2019.
- Under Fire.1 The Organization and Representation of Violence*. Collected proceedings. (Rotterdam: Witte de With, Center for contemporary Art, 2004).
- Under Fire.2 The Organization and Representation of Violence*. Collected proceedings. (Rotterdam: Witte de With, Center for contemporary Art, 2005).

#### **Select Book reviews**

- Keller, Mary L. 2020 *Conceiving an Alternative*. Eds. Demian Wheeler and David E. Conner. *American Journal of Theology and Philosophy*. Champagne, Illinois: University of Illinois Press.
- Keller, Mary L. *Meaningful Flesh: Reflections on Religion and Nature for a Queer Planet*. *Journal for the Study of Religion, Nature, and Culture*, Ed. Whitney Bauman. 13.2, 254-256.
- Keller, Mary L. 2019. Review of *Facing the Planetary*. *Reading Religion*. <http://readingreligion.org/books/facing-planetary>
- Keller, Mary L. 2019. Review of *Crow Jesus: Personal Stories of Native Religious Belongings*. *New Mexico Historical Review* (94.3) 310-311.

- Keller, Mary L. 2019. Review of *Meaningful Flesh: Reflections on Religion and Nature for a Queer Planet*. *Journal for the Study of Religion, Nature and Culture* (13.2) 254-256.
- Keller, Mary L. Jan. 15, 2018. Review of *Near-Death Experience in Indigenous Religions*. *Reading Religion*. <http://readingreligion.org/books/near-death-experience-indigenous-religions>
- Keller, Mary L. 2018. Review of Fundamentals of Comparative and Intercultural Philosophy, *American Journal of Theology & Philosophy* 39, no. 2: 74-77.

### **Manuscript reviews**

- Keller, Mary L. January 2015 For University of Nebraska Press, "*The Shrine was Human Rights*": *Religiously Motivated Feminist Activists in North America*

### **Article reviews**

- Keller, Mary L. Review of "Place-making and feminist Ethics: A Cast Study of Christian Climate Change Activism for *Journal for the Study of Religion, Nature and Culture*. Jan. 2019.

### **ONLINE SCHOLARSHIP**

- 2020 "Black Lives: Triangulations with the Natural World." Forum on Nature and Normativity. *Immanent Frame: Secularism, Religion, and the Public Sphere*. <https://tif.ssrc.org/2020/11/09/black-lives-triangulations-with-the-natural-world/>
- 2019 Op-ed for *Religious Studies News*, July 29, 2019 "Missing Things: The American Academy of Religion in the Time of Climate Emergency"
- 2016 Op-ed for *Religious Studies News*, June 24, 2016 "Laurie Zoloth was Right to Ask for an AAR Sabbatical, but It's Too Little, Too Late"

### **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS AND ACTIVITIES**

- 2023-2020 International Society for the Study of Religion, Nature, and Culture.
- 2023-1990 American Academy of Religions (AAR)
- 2023-2018 Secretary, Native Memory Project
- 2019 October, Grant Review Panelist, National Endowment for the Arts  
Secretary of the Board of the Native Memory Project  
Westar Institute Fellow, Respondent at Annual Meeting, Workshop Presenter in Hamilton Ontario and Beaverton Oregon
- 2018 Peer review of "Learning and Unlearning: Some Reflections on Feminist Praxis and Pedagogic Practice in Religious Studies and Religious Education" for *Religions*.  
Second peer review, "The Challenge of Fraternal Pairing and Racial Theory" for *American Political Thought*.  
Manuscript review for *Dreams, Vampires, and Ghosts: Anthropological Perspectives on the Sacred and Psychology in Film and Television* by Louise Child for Bloomsbury Press.
- 2017 Peer review, "The Challenge of Fraternal Pairing and Racial Theory" for *American Political Thought*
- 2018 International Society of Religion, Nature and Culture, working group on Ecology and Critical Theory
- 2018-2013 Co-chair, Feminist Theory and Religious Reflection Group, AAR
- 2012-2007 Steering Committee, Feminist Theory and Religious Reflection, AAR
- 2011-2010 Greater Yellowstone Historical Society Grant Bulltail Archive Project
- 2010-2007 Steering Committee Indigenous Religions, AAR

## **HONORS AND AWARDS**

- 2016 Highly Commended Paper Certificate, Emerald Literati Awards, for "Teleinvestmentevangelists: Celebrity, Ritual and Religion and the Quest to "beat the Market"." *Qualitative Research in Financial Markets* 7, no. 3 (08/03; 2015/07, 2015): 290-308. Refereed.
- 2015 Master Distance Educator Award, Wyoming Distance Education Coalition
- 2015 Hollon Award for Teaching Excellence in Off-Campus Programs
- 2012 Fall Travel support for conference in Hungary, College of Arts and Sciences, Program of Religious Studies.
- 2008 Fall Cody Institute for Western American Studies Research Fellow
- 2002 Best First Book in the History of Religions, American Academy of Religions, Toronto.

## **SELECT PAPERS PRESENTED/SYMPOSIA/INVITED**

## **LECTURES/PROFESSIONALMEETINGS/WORKSHOPS**

- 2020 "Spirited Matter." Religion Materialism, and Ecology, Manchester, UK: European Forum for the Study of Religion and the Environment.
- 2019 Westar Institute, "The Religious Right and Climate Change" and "Reorienting Right and Wrong." Beaverton, Oregon  
Westar Institute, Jeffrey Robbins and Mary Keller, "Orienting Ourselves to Questions of Environment, Politics and God." Keller "Indigenous Spirits, Haunted Landscapes, and the Feral Spirit of Climate Change." Hamilton Ontario
- June "Unsettling Narratives of Climate Change," International Society for the Study of Religion, Nature and Culture, Cork, Ireland
- March Respondent to *Facing the Planetary*, Political Theologies Conference, Drew University  
Respondent to *Evolutionary Religion*, Westar Institute, Santa Rosa, CA
- 2018 "Calories as Currency," WIHR Seminar in honor of Eric J. Sandeen, UW
- November Is Nothing Sacred? Indigenous Places, Black Bodies, and Whiteness as Property (25 years later)
- March "What Indigenous Religions Bring to God Talk," for the "Non-theistic conceptions of God Seminar" of the Westar Institute, Santa Rosa, CA.
- 2017 November "Grief and Illusion: Companions of digital memorials in the Sixth Great Extinction," Feminist Theory and Religious Reflection, American Academy of Religions, Boston
- 2017 November Saturday University, Gillette, "Finding Religion?"  
Moderator, "Divine Right and Sacred Lands," Cody, Wyoming.  
Invited lecture, "Comparative Theology in a World of Worlds," Thomas the Apostle Center
- 2014 November "The Spirit of Climate Change," Comparative Studies in Religion Section, American Academy of Religions, San Diego, CA.
- 2013 August Ecology as the Arbiter of Value in 21<sup>st</sup> Century Finance: Calories as Currency," Critical Finance Studies, Stockholm, Sweden.

- 2012 November Comparative Studies in Religion Section, “Holy Mountains, Spirits and Sky People,” American Academy of Religions National Meeting, Respondent, Chicago.
- 2012 November Indigenous Religions Group, “Spirit Possession Studies from an Indigenous Studies Perspective: Things That Speak Through us in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.” American Academy of Religions National Meeting, Chicago.
- 2012 September Committee of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, “Spirit Possession and Indigenous Studies in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century,” Spirit Possession: European Contributions to Comparative Studies International Conference, Pécs, Hungary.
- 2011 November Indigenous Religions Group, “Returning to Foretop’s Father.” American Academy of Religion Annual National Meeting, San Francisco.
- 2010 August “Revaluing Religion: Memory-work and Embodied Power in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century,” Plenary lecture, Women and Memory-Work International Conference, University of Limerick, Ireland.
- 2010 August Critical Finance Studies Conference III, “Money and Agency,” Amsterdam, The Netherlands.
- 2009 September Western Association of Map Librarians, “Palimpsest Culture: What’s Rising through the Maps of the American West in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century,” Cody, Wyoming.
- 2009 August Critical Finance Studies Conference II, “The Value of Sacred Lands in a Global Economy,” Brussels Belgium.
- 2009 April Simpósio Internacional sobre Religiosidades, Diálogos Culturais e Híbridas (International Symposium on Religiosities, Cultural Dialogue and Hybridities), “Cartography and Matter Transformed in the New World,” Universidade Federal de Mato Grosso do Sul, Brazil.
- 2008 August Critical Finance Studies Conference, “Religion and Money: The Prosperity Gospel,” Stockholm, Sweden.
- 2008 November “Tracking the Sacred in the Work of Walter Echo-Hawk.” Indigenous Religions Group, American Academy of Religion Annual National Meeting, Chicago.
- 2008 March “A Political Economy of the Sacred in the American West,” Rocky Mountain Regional Meeting of the American Academy of Religion.

### **ONLINE SCHOLARSHIP**

- 2020 “Black Lives: Triangulations with the Natural World.” Forum on Nature and Normativity. *Immanent Frame: Secularism, Religion, and the Public Sphere*. <https://tif.ssrc.org/2020/11/09/black-lives-triangulations-with-the-natural-world/>
- 2019 Op-ed for *Religious Studies News*, July 29, 2019 “Missing Things: The American Academy of Religion in the Time of Climate Emergency”
- 2016 Op-ed for *Religious Studies News*, June 24, 2016 “Laurie Zoloth was Right to Ask for an AAR Sabbatical, but It’s Too Little, Too Late

### **COMMITTEES**

Lead, Hiring Committee for Scenario Research Scientist and Scenario Postdoc, WyACT

Hiring Committee for Buddhist Studies Position and Americanist Position, Fall 2019-Spring 2020

Lead for Ho Family Buddhist Studies Professorship Grant Committee, 2017-2019

Religious Studies Scholarship Committee, Chair, 2018-2017

Curriculum Committee, African American and Diaspora Studies, 2015-2016

Religious Studies Assessment, 2016-2018

Curriculum 2016-2017

Outreach Faculty Handbook Committee, Spring 2006.

### **OTHER ACTIVITIES/ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

Successful nomination of Grant Bulltail for a National Heritage Fellowship Award, which he received from the National Endowment for the Arts. I accompanied him and helped with the development and preparation of his performance in Washington, DC at the awards ceremony, September 20.

The Return to Foretop's Father is an alliance that I have directed between Apsáalooke tribal members, The Nature Conservancy, and the Wyoming Interfaith Network. It is a multiple-day event that includes an academic seminar, ceremonial meal, Pipe Ceremony, and supported hike on Heart Mountain (aka Foretop's Father). In 2012 the seminar included Peter Nabokov and Lawrence Loendorf, recognized nationally and internationally for their work in ethnography and sacred lands issues. In 2013 the seminar included Laura Scheiber, Indiana University and John Mionczynski. 2014 featured Prof. Robert Meister, University of California, Santa Cruz and Grant Bulltail. 2015 featured Dr. Vanessa Simonds (Crow), Dayle S. Felicia (Crow) and Grant Bulltail. 2016 featured a collaboration with the Crow Fair Royalty (eleven young women chosen to represent their bands at official tribal events). 2017 featured Grant Bulltail in conversation with Ken Chestek (University of Wyoming Law School), Chesie Lee (Wind River Native Advocacy Center), and Noel Two Leggins (Executive Secretary for the Crow Tribal Council). 2018 featured Preston Randolph, director and producer of "Return to Foretop's Father" with Jill Carow, Rod and Lynn Morrison, and Noel Two Leggins addressing the "Art of Returning." 2019's theme: Learning Crow Cultural Heritage from the Ground Up" included Janine Pease of the Little Big Horn Tribal College, John Mionczynski, and Grant Bulltail.

An award-winning documentary film about Grant Bulltail is now streaming on Montana PBS, <https://www.montanapbs.org/programs/return-to-foretops-father/>

Lead for Ho Buddhist Studies Professorship, winning a \$300,000 grant to start a new tenure line in the College of Arts and Sciences, University of Wyoming.

Native Memory Project, Steering committee and Education committee.  
<https://nativememoryproject.org/>