

GLOBAL SCHOLARS CANADA PROFILE

A. Education

- 1993 Certificate in Basic Pastoral Training
Queen Street Mental Health Center, Toronto, ON
- 1992 Doctor of Philosophy in Theology
University of St. Michael's College, Toronto, ON
Dissertation: "John Calvin on Papal Primacy: His Critique of the Primacy of the Bishop of Rome in the Light of the Pre-Reformation Tradition and the Contemporary Ecumenical Dialogues"
- 1988 Master of Theology
Calvin Theological Seminary, Grand Rapids, MI
Thesis Topic: "One Flock, One Shepherd: A Study of the Relationship of Ecumenism and Mission in the Contemporary Roman Catholic Church"
- 1977 Master of Divinity (Upgrade)
Calvin Theological Seminary, Grand Rapids, MI
- 1969-1973
Graduate studies in Philosophy
Free University of Amsterdam, Netherlands
- 1969 Bachelor of Divinity
Calvin Theological Seminary, Grand Rapids, MI
- 1966 Bachelor of Arts
Calvin College, Grand Rapids, MI

B. Location and Courses Taught for GSC

- 2012-2015 Lecturer, Gambia Theological Institute, Kololi, Gambia
Courses in Systematic and Historical Theology
- 2009 Visiting Professor, St. Augustine University, Mwanza, Tanzania
Course: History of Political Thought (masters level)
- 2002-2008 Professor, University of Jos, Nigeria
Courses at Diploma, Under-graduate, and Post-graduate levels
- 2007 Nigerian Missionary Institute, Jos, Nigeria
Course: Ecclesiology
- 2005 St. Augustine's Major Seminary, Jos, Nigeria
Course: History of Contemporary Philosophy
- 2004 Nigerian Baptist Theological Seminary, Ogbomosho, Nigeria
Courses: Issues in Contemporary Theology (masters level)
Post-modernism and Religious Pluralism (doctoral level)

- St. Augustine's Major Seminary, Jos, Nigeria
Course: History of Medieval Philosophy
- 2003 Theological College of Northern Nigeria
Course: Inter-disciplinary Colloquium (masters level)
- 1998 Moscow Christian School of Psychology (Moscow, Russia)
Course: Theological Anthropology
- 1997 Open Christianity Philosophical/theological Institute, St. Petersburg, Russia
Course: Reformation
- 1980-1981 International School of Theology, Baguio, Philippines
Courses: Reformation and Reformed Theology
- 1995 Visiting Professor, Moscow State University
Courses in Civil Society, Ethics, Philosophy, Political Science, Religion, and World Religions

I also participated in editing new textbooks for our Russian colleagues.

In Addition to Teaching:

Supervision of Bachelor Projects and Graduate-Level Theses at University of Jos

Every year I supervised several bachelor projects.

Five Masters students completed their work under my supervision

Three Ph.D. students supervised via email—one on the faculty of the Theological College of Northern Nigeria and two at the University of Jos.

External Examinations

Ten students at Theological College of Northern Nigeria (masters level)

Two students at Nigerian Baptist Theological Seminary, Ogbomsho, Nigeria (doctoral level)

The number of internal examinations and committee service I performed at the University of Jos is unknown

C. Personal Bio

I was born in the Netherlands, but grew up in Canada. I attended Calvin College and Seminary. Then I studied at the Free University of Amsterdam. That where I met Wendy again. We got married in the Netherlands and worked there for two years before returning to Canada to serve as a pastor in Terrace, BC., for four years. Sharon and David were both born there.

We were then called to teach in the Philippines with Christian Reformed World Missions.. We taught in Bacolod for six years. Pauline was born there. We also supervised a church and brought it to organization by the end of our second term. In our third term where I led Bible study groups with university staff, business men, and political prisoners. These Bible studies led to my involvement in the 1986 revolution that resulted in the expulsion of President Marcos. At the end of that year we decided to leave the Philippines so that our children could attend high school and I could finish my master's and begin a doctoral program at the University of Toronto.

After receiving my doctorate, I served briefly as an interim pastor in Brampton. Then we discovered International Institute for Christian Studies and the rest, as they say, is history. We have served with Global Scholars Canada in Russia, Nigeria, Tanzania, and The Gambia.

Our children are all adults. Sharon is a personal support worker and artist (fine arts, painting) living in Toronto. David taught ESL several years in the Middle East; he then settled in Turkey, where he found his wife. They have a son and are living in Istanbul. Pauline married after graduating from Calvin College; her husband is a civil engineer. They have four children and live in Massachusetts. Except for Sharon, none of them live in Toronto, where we settled after our retirement in 2009. Sharon is the only one who still lives near us.

My hobbies are reading and, lately, tai chi. The latter is a form of exercise that is especially appropriate for my age. Since our return to Canada, I have served and still serve on several boards, including the Lighthouse, Citizens for Public Justice, and Logos, a student ministry at York University. I have also served on numerous committees. This is a pleasure we were unable to enjoy while we served outside Canada.

D. Some Special Moments in GSC Ministry

The Beginning

Our involvement in what is now GSC began with my search for full-time work. After getting my PhD, I worked for a while as an interim pastor, but I needed to find an academic position. Thus when I noticed an ad in Christianity Today for a teaching position in Port Harcourt in Nigeria with an organization called IICS. The ad listed a phone number and that of a postal box. Since the phone number was not available in Canada, I wrote both. IICS, I learned was the International Institute for Christian Studies. It the ancestor of GSC.

IICS soon sent us the preliminary application forms which we immediately filled out. Not long after we received further forms, and not long after that we were informed that we would be interviewed. This happened on my birthday in 1994. \But instead of us going to Kansas City, where the headquarters are located, the Executive Director, Daryl McCarthy flew to Toronto for an interview. Once this lengthy application process was completed we were accepted by the board of IICS.

Our next step was to raise the necessary funds. IICS is a faith mission. Fortunately, we still had a network of supporting churches and individuals. Shortly afterwards we were invited to attend where we were told that IICS was providing us with a large grant which was sufficient for us to leave for the field, although we didn't yet know where.

One step remained: to set up a Canadian charity that would receive funds and issue tax receipts. The incorporation of this charity did not happen without a few legal hick-ups. Then we had to organize a board that would distribute funds to us and supervise our work. The first board members came from Ontario and British Columbia. The new name for this charity was Christian Studies International. This name remained for many years until the American board recently selected a new name: Global Scholars. The Canadian board adopted a new name as well: Global Scholars Canada, which is the current name. But we are getting ahead of ourselves. We needed a place to work.

We were first considered for placement in Lithuania or Romania. But then we learned that Dan Clendenin, who was serving at Moscow State University, felt burnt out and wanted to be replaced. He had heard of our availability and wanted us to come to Moscow. That was how we went to Russia, where we spent seven wonderful years.

Publications

Books

2004. *Let Justice Flow Down Like a River: A Study Guide on Biblical Justice*. Jos: Stream Publishers.

Articles

2019. "Seventy-Five Long Hours" and "A Nonviolent Revolution" in *Dark Days of Authoritarianism: To Be in History*. Edited by Melba Padilla Maggay. (London, UK: Langham Global Library).

2006. "The Original Great Commission and Christ's Great Commission." *Bulletin of the Theological College of Northern Nigeria*, March: 21-37.

2003. "Mission and Unity: Twin Foci of the Church." *Bulletin of the Theological College of Northern Nigeria*, September: 33-48.

2003. "The 'Russian Idea': Philosophical Considerations" (in Russian). *Vestnik Moskovskogo Universiteta* (Bulletin of Moscow State University), Seria 7 Philosophia, 1:86 - 100.

2003. "The Russian Idea." *Public Justice Report* 26.3 (2003):6-7.

2003. "Russia, 1995-2002: Cultural, Political and Educational Change." (A monograph for the Center for Public Justice (Washington, DC).

2002. "John Calvin on the Procession of the Holy Spirit," *One in Christ*, Vol. 37, No 4 (October):21-36

2002. With Wendy Helleman. "Impressions of Russia: 1995-2002." *Christian-Courier* (Ontario, Canada), June.

2000. "Dancing Together: Church and State in Russia Today," *Pro Rege* XX/1 (September):10-17.

- 1997-98. Together with Wendy Helleman. Series of four articles on Russian philosophy (in Dutch) in *Beweging* (Quarterly of the Society for Calvinistic Philosophy, Netherlands).
1994. "The Nature of Calvin's Rejection of Papal Primacy," *Calvin Theological Journal* 29 (November): 432-50.
1994. "The Contribution of John Calvin to an Ecumenical Dialogue on Papal Primacy," *One in Christ* XXX/4 (1994): 328-43.

Conference Publications

2007. "Decontextualizing Evangelicalism." Presented to IICS Vision Conference, Kansas City, MO, 11-15 July 2007, published by IICS (online).
2007. "Ten New Biblical Commandments for Fighting Corruption in Arica." *Biblical Studies and Corruption in Africa*. The Nigerian Association for Biblical Studies, 2007: 12-33.
2006. "Building Bridges Through Worldviews," (PowerPoint Presentation). Presented to the 7th International Conference of the International Association for the Promotion of Christian Higher Education, Granada, Nicaragua, 14-19 November 2006.
2006. "Response to Rajouli." Presented to the 7th International Conference of the International Association for the Promotion of Christian Higher Education, Granada, Nicaragua, 14-19 November 2006.
2003. "Christian Education and Relations Between Confessions and Toward Different Religions," (in Russian and English), *Higher Education in XXI Century Russian Culture: A Christian Perspective*, St. Petersburg, Russia: SRPH:241-252.
2002. "Active Nonviolence: The Only Viable Alternative." *The Fifth International Conference on Christian-Muslim Mutual Relations: Reports and Papers of a Conference Initiated by the Lutheran Church of Christ in Nigeria and Sponsored by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*. (Jos, Nigeria, 2002): 93-99.
2000. "Solovyov's Views on Protestantism," in *Vladimir Solov'ev - Reconciler and Polemicist*, W. van de Bercken, M. de Courten, E. vander Zweerde, eds., Peeters (Leuven/Paris): 95-105.

Book Reviews

1997. Review of Gerard Kelly, *Recognition: advancing ecumenical thinking*, in *Studies in Religion* (November).
1995. Review of *On the way to Fuller Koinonia*, Thomas Best and Gunther Gassman, eds., in *Calvin Theological Journal* 30 (April): 281-283.
1992. Review of Henry Zwaanstra, *Catholicity and Secession: A Study of Ecumenicity in the Christian Reformed Church*, in *Calvin Theological Journal* 27 (November): 356-361.