

Jon Bialecki

CURRICULUM VITAE · PUBLIC EDITION · SEPTEMBER 21, 2026

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Education

2009 – PhD. in Anthropology, University of California, San Diego (Dissertation: “The Kingdom and its Subjects: Charisms, Language, Economy, and the Birth of a Progressive Politics in the Vineyard”; Committee members: Joel Robbins [Chair], Suzanne Brenner, Thomas Csordas, John H. Evans, Marcel Hénaff, Melford Spiro)

2000 – M.A., in Anthropology, University of California, San Diego

1997 – J.D., in Criminal Jurisprudence, University of San Diego, summa cum laude

1992 – B.A., in Anthropology, University of California, San Diego

Specialization

Ethnographic & Thematic Areas: Anthropology of North America, Anthropology of Mormonism, Transhumanism, Companion AIs, Science and Religion, Internet and Religion, Anthropological Study of Christianity, Pentecostal and charismatic Christianity.

Concentration: Sociocultural anthropology, anthropology of religion, anthropology of artificial intelligence, artificial intelligence, religion, personhood, and kinship, anthropological theories of subject and self, anthropology of temporality, political anthropology, politics and religion, political theology, language ideology, linguistic anthropology, anthropological theory, anthropology and ontology, continental psychoanalytic theory.

Academic Appointments

2020–present Lecturer (Continuing Appointment), Anthropology Department, University of California, San Diego.

2017–2020 Lecturer, Anthropology Department, University of California, San Diego.

2015–2019 Honorary Fellow, School of Social and Political Science, University of Edinburgh.

2013–2015 Lecturer, Department of Social Anthropology, University of Edinburgh (equivalent to Assistant Professor position in the American System).

2009–2013 Lecturer, Anthropology Department, University of California, San Diego.

2006–2009 Visiting Assistant Professor, Anthropology Department, Reed College.

Publications

Monographs and Edited Volumes

2022 *Machines for Making Gods: Mormonism, Transhumanism, and Worlds Without End*. New York: Fordham Press.

-Currently published or in-press reviews: H-Sci-Med-Tech (Humanities and Social Science online), Religion, Religious Studies Review, Nova Religio, Reading Religion, Mormon Studies Review, Journal of Contemporary Religion, Dialogue, Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute.

2017 *A Diagram for Fire: Miracles and Variation in an American Charismatic Movement*. University of California Press.

- Awarded 2017 Sharon Stephens Prize by the American Ethnological Society.

-Awarded 2018 Honorable Mention in the Clifford Geertz Prize by the Society for the Anthropology of Religion.

-Currently published or in-press reviews: American Ethnologist; AnthroCyBib; Ethnos; Journal of the American Academy of Religion; Journal of the Royal Anthropological Association; On Knowing Humanity; Pneuma; Reading Religion; Religion and Society; Social Analysis; Social Anthropology; Times Literary Supplement; Journal for the Society of Psychological Anthropology.

- Book forum discussions in 14(3) issue of *Journal of Magic, Ritual, and Witchcraft*, and in Syndicate Network website (<https://syndicate.network/symposia/theology/a-diagram-for-fire/?fbclid=IwAR2n2LR62MKNjKjgICfN0Kn3yCV6b1PEv5AapUE9WabP1GDP5Gf2EQXZ6M>).

-Author interview on CaMP Anthropology website (<https://campanthropology.org/2019/08/26/jon-bialecki-a-diagram-for-fire/>) and the American Ethnological Association website (<http://americanethnologist.org/features/interviews/aes-interviews-jon-bialecki>).

Book Manuscript in Preparation

Machinic Kin. Book manuscript in preparation.

Peer-Reviewed Articles and Book Chapters

Forthcoming: "Proxy and Litmus: The Book of Abraham and the Social Life of Scriptures." (co-authored with James Bielo). In *Reforming Scriptures: Theories, Transformations, and Experiences*, edited by Matthew Bowman, Heather Burrow, Rebekah Call, and James Yuile. Urbana, IL: University of Illinois Press.

Forthcoming: "Machinic Kin: Mormon Transhumanists, Genealogical Archives, and Artificial Intelligences." In special issue "Kinship at the End of Death: Rethinking Relatedness in the Contexts of Technoscientific Immortality," edited by Annelin Eriksen and Anya Bernstein. *Social Analysis* 70(2).

Forthcoming: "Companion AIs as a 'Religious' Problem." In *Handbook of Religion and AI*, edited by Robert M. Geraci. Edward Elgar Publishing.

2026 "Virtual Religion." In *The Oxford Handbook of the Anthropology of Religion*, edited by Joel Robbins and Simon Coleman, 611–624. Oxford University Press. <https://doi.org/10.1093/9780191822285.003.0034>

2025 "The Mormon Archive's First Ten Thousand Years: infrastructure, materiality, ontology and resurrection in religious transhumanism." *Comparative Studies in Society and History*.
Doi:10.1017/S0010417524000367

2024 "A School of Thought in Christian Anthropology: A discussion on ontology, religion, and the limits of secularity." (A dialogue with Eloise Meneses). *Religion and Society* 14: 60-73.

2024 "The Logic of the Fetish in the Present." Part of special section (Review Symposium on William Pietz's *The Problem of the Fetish*). *History of European Ideas* 50(4): 674-676.

2023 "On (Not) Explaining the Domestic Miracle." In Paolo Heywood and Matei Candea, eds. *Beyond Description: Anthropologies of Explanation*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press.

- 2023 "Sexbots Playing the Imitation Game." Part of special section Special Section ("Trolley Problem" anthropology: stylized ethical dilemmas and the response of ethnography). *Social Analysis* 67(3): 109-117.
- 2023 "Futures, Straining to Come into the World: Transhumanism, Transhumanisms, and the Mormon Transhumanist Association." In *Humanity: An Endangered Idea? Clairemont Studies in the Philosophy of Religion*, Conference 2019. Edited by Ingolf U. Dalferth and Raymond E. Perrier. Mohr Siebeck.
- 2023 "Prayer, Demons, and Akratic Sublation." In *Against Better Judgment: Akrasia in Anthropological Perspective*. Edited by Patrick McKearney and Nicholas H.A. Evans. Berghahn Books.
- 2022 "Strange Aeons: Transhumanism, H.P. Lovecraft, and the affective index of posthuman dread." Part of special issue on 'Rapid Religious Change.' In *The Australian Journal of Anthropology*. DOI: 10.1111/taja.12450
- 2022 "Ripples from a (Seer) Stone: Religious, Technological, and Magical Modalities." Special section on 'Magic and Technology' in *Magic, Ritual, and Witchcraft*. 17(2): 190-200.
- 2022 "Book forum on Joel Robbins' *Theology and the Anthropology of and Christian Life*." *Anthropology and History*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/02757206.2022.2119232> (co-authored with J. Derrick Lemons, Courtney Handman, Simon Coleman, Naomi Haynes, Maya Mayblin, Timothy Larsen, and Joel Robbins)
- 2022 "The Mormon Dead." In *The Dynamic Cosmos: Paradox, Movement, and Theoretical Experimentation in the Anthropology of Spirit Possession*. Edited by Diana Espirito Santos and Matan Shapiro. Bloomsbury Press, 133-148.
- 2022 "Harman, a prophet, a church, a name: a portrait of four objects." In *Philosophy on Fieldwork: Case Studies in Anthropological Analysis*. Edited by Nils Bubandt and Thomas Schwarz Wentzer. Routledge, 249-266.
- 2022 "A managerial apocalypse: Mormon missionaries, eschatological anxieties, and Covid-19." *Religion*. DOI: 10.1080/0048721X.2022.2051800
- 2022 "Kolob Runs on Domo: Mormon Secrets and Transhumanist Code." *Ethnos* 87(3):518-537.
- 2021 "Coda: An Origin Story (An essay in the Self-Positionality in the Anthropology of Christianity series)." *New Directions in the Anthropology of Christianity*. <https://www.new-directions.sps.ed.ac.uk/coda-an-origin-story-an-essay-in-the-self-positionality-in-the-anthropology-of-christianity-series/>
- 2020 "Future-Day Saints: Abrahamic Astronomy, Anthropological Futures, and Speculative Religion." *Religions*. 11(11):612.
- 2019 "Reterritorializing Religion, Reterritorializing Money." In David Pedersen and Taylor Nelms, eds., *The Cultural History of Money in the Modern Age*. London: Bloomsbury, 83-134.
- 2019 "Gods, AIs, and Mormon Transhumanism." *Platypus: The CASTAC Blog*. <http://blog.castac.org/2019/02/gods-ais-mormon-transhumanism/>
- 2019 "'The Lord Says You Speak as Harlots': Affect, Affectus, and Affectio." In Yelle, Robert, Christopher Lerich, and Courtney Handman, eds. *Language and Religion*. Berlin: De Gruyters, 418-441.
- 2018 "Anthropology, Theology, and the Challenge of Immanence." In J. Derrick Lemons, ed., *Theologically Engaged Anthropology*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 156-188.
- 2018 "Can we Have our Nature/Culture Dichotomy Back, please?" (co-authored with Nigel Clark and Rupert Stasch). In *An Anthropology of the Enlightenment: Moral Social Relations Then and Today*. London: Bloomsbury, 99-117.

- 2018 "Introduction to special section 2: Anthropology and Character." (co-authored with Adam Reed). In *Social Anthropology/Anthropologie Sociale* 26(3): 305-313.
- 2018 "Introduction to special section 1: Anthropology and Character." (co-authored with Adam Reed). In *Social Anthropology/Anthropologie Sociale* 26(2): 159-167.
- 2018 "Character as Gift and Erasure." In *Social Anthropology/Anthropologie Sociale* 26(2):211-221
- 2018 "Judgement and critique, Anthropology and religion." *Critical Research on Religion* 6(1): 10-15.
- 2017 "Eschatology, Ethics and Êthnos: Resentment and Christian Nationalism in the Anthropology of Christianity." *Religion and Society: Advances in Research* 8: 42-61.
- 2017 "Dialogic Prophecies and Monologic Vision." In Tomlinson, Matt and Julian Millie, eds. *The Monologic Imagination*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- 2017 "After, and Before, Anthropos" *Platypus: The Castac Blog*
<http://blog.castac.org/2017/04/after-and-before-anthropos/>
- 2017 "Anthropos Tomorrow: Transhumanism and Anthropology" (co-authored with Ian Lowrie). *Platypus: The Castac Blog* <http://blog.castac.org/2017/02/anthropos-tomorrow-transhumanism-and-anthropology/>
- 2017 "Assemblages: (Pre)Political, Ethical, and Ontological Perspectives." (co-authored with Razvan Amironesei). *SubStance* 46(1): 3-20.
- 2017 "The Tragic Political Assemblage: Implications of Contemporary Anthropological Debates on Hierarchy, Heterarchy, and Ontology as Political Challenges." *SubStance* 46(1): 140-154.
- 2017 "'Religion' after Religion, 'Ritual' after Ritual." In *The Routledge Companion to Contemporary Anthropology*, Simon Coleman and Sue Hyatt, eds., Routledge Press.
- 2016 "Diagramming the Will: Ethics and Prayer, Text and Politics." *Ethnos* 81(4): 712-732.
- 2016 "The Ancient-Future Time Crystal: On the Temporality of Emerging Christianity." (co-authored with James Bielo). In April Stace and Mike Clawson, eds., *Crossing Boundaries, Redefining Faith: Interdisciplinary Perspective on the Emerging Church*. Eugene, Oregon: Wipf & Stock.
- 2016 "Apocalyptic Diversity, Demonic Anthropology, and the Evangelical Êthnos: Modes of imagining alterity among American Charismatic Evangelicals." In *North American Dialogue* 19(2): 85-101.
- 2016 "Descending Beneath Our Christian/Secular Divide," a contribution to "An Author Meets His Critics: Faith in Anthropology: A Symposium on Timothy Larsen's *The Slain God*" *The Cambridge Journal of Anthropology* 34(2): 140-152 (with Timothy Larsen, Brian Howell, Derrick Lemons, James Bielo, and Tanya Luhmann).
- 2016 "Protestant Language, Christian Problems, and Religious Realism" *Suomen Antropologi: Journal of the Finnish Anthropological Society* 40(4): 37-42 (lead article in a forum entitled "Is there such a thing as Religious Language? Is there such a thing as Religion?").
- 2016 "Ethnography at its Edges: The Insistence of Religion" *American Ethnologist* 43(2):369-373. (Long-form essay on Janice Boddy and Michael Lambek, *A Companion to the Anthropology of Religion*).
- 2016 "Apostolic Networks in the Third Wave of the Spirit: John Wimber and the Vineyard." *Pneuma* 38(1): 23-32.
- 2015 "Affect: Intensities and Energies in the Charismatic Language, Embodiment, and Genre of a North American Movement." In *The Anthropology of Global Pentecostalism and Evangelicalism*, Simon Coleman and Rosalind Hackett, eds., New York: New York University Press.

- 2015 "The Third Wave and The Third World: C. Peter Wagner, John Wimber, and the Pedagogy of Global Renewal in the Late Twentieth Century." *Pneuma* 37(2): 177-200.
- 2015 "Special Section Introduction: What is an Individual? The View from Christianity." (co-authored with Girish Daswani) *Hau: Journal of Ethnographic Theory* 5 (1): 271-294. Part of a Special Section "The anthropology of personhood, redux: Views from Christianity," Jon Bialecki and Girish Daswani, special editors.
- 2015 "The Judgment of God and the Non-Elephantine Zoo: Christian Dividualism, Individualism, and Ethical Freedom After the Mosko-Robbins Debate." *AnthroCyBib Occasional Paper Series* <http://www.blogs.hss.ed.ac.uk/anthrocybib/2015/03/17/occasional-paper-bialecki-the-judgment-of-god-and-the-non-elephantine-zoo/>
- 2014 "After the Denominozoic: Evolution, Differentiation, Denominationalism." *Current Anthropology* 55(S10): S193-S204.
- 2014 "Does God Exist in Methodological Atheism? On Tanya Lurhmann's When God Talks Back and Bruno Latour." *The Journal of the Anthropology of Consciousness* 25(1):32-52.
- 2012 "Virtual Christianity in an Age of Nominalist Anthropology." *Anthropological Theory* 12(3): 295-319.
- 2011 "Introduction." (Lead author; co-author Eric Hoenes del Pinal). *Anthropological Quarterly* 84(3): 575-593. Part of a special issue "Beyond Logos, Extensions of the Language Ideology Paradigm in the Study of Global Christianity(-ies)," E. Hoenes del Pinal and J. Bialecki, special editors.
- 2011 "No Caller I.D. for the Soul – demonization, charisms, and the unstable subject of Protestant language ideology." *Anthropological Quarterly* 84(3): 679-703. Part of a special issue "Beyond Logos: Extensions of the Language Ideology Paradigm in the Study of Global Christianity(-ies)," E. Hoenes del Pinal and J. Bialecki, special editors.
- 2011 "Quiet Deliverances" in *Practicing the Faith: The Ritual Life of Pentecostal-Charismatic Christians* (edited by Martin Linderhart). Oxford: Berghahn Press, pp. 249-276.
- 2010 "Angels and Grass: Church, Revival, and the Neo-Pauline Turn." *South Atlantic Quarterly* 109(4): 695-717.
- 2009 "The Bones Restored to Life: Dialogue and Dissemination in the Vineyard's Dialectic of Text and Presence" in *The Social Life of Scriptures: Cross-Cultural Perspectives on Biblicism* (edited by James Bielo). New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press, pp. 136-156.
- 2009 "Disjuncture, Continental Philosophy's New 'Political Paul,' and the Question of Progressive Christianity in a Southern Californian Third Wave Church." *American Ethnologist* 36(1): 110-123.
- 2008 "The Anthropology of Christianity." (Lead author; co-authors Naomi Haynes and Joel Robbins). *Religion Compass* 2(6): 1139-1158.
- 2008 "Between Stewardship and Sacrifice: Agency and Economy in a Southern California Charismatic Church." *Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute (N.S.)* 14(2): 372-390.

Edited Works

- 2021 (co-edited with Girish Daswani) "Essays in the Self-Positionality in the Anthropology of Christianity. *New Directions in the Anthropology of Christianity*. <https://www.new-directions.sps.ed.ac.uk/occasional-papers/>
- 2018 (co-edited with Adam Reed) "Anthropology and Character, Part Two." In *Social Anthropology/Anthropologie Sociale* 26(3).

2018 (co-edited with Adam Reed) "Anthropology and Character" In *Social Anthropology/Anthropologie Sociale* 26(2).

2017 (co-edited with Ian Lowrie) "Anthropos Tomorrow: Transhumanism and Anthropology." *Platypus: The Castac Blog* <http://blog.castac.org>

2017(co-edited with Razvan Amironsei) "Assemblages: (Pre)Political, Ethical and Ontological Perspectives." *SubStance* 46(1).

2015(co-edited with Girish Daswani) Special Section "The anthropology of personhood, redux: Views from Christianity," *Hau: Journal of Ethnographic Theory* 5(1).

2011(co-edited with Eric Hoenes del Pinal) Special issue "Beyond Logos: Extensions of the Language Ideology Paradigm in the Study of Global Christianity(-ies)," *Anthropological Quarterly* 84(3).

Encyclopedia Articles

2021 "Wagner, Charles Peter." Entry in *Brill's Encyclopedia of Global Pentecostalism*. Edited by Michael Wilkinson, Connie Au, Jörg Haustein, and Todd M. Johnson. Brill.

2018 "Christianity." Entry in *International Encyclopedia of Anthropology*, edited by Hillary Callan. Wiley-Blackwell.

2018 "Deleuze." *Cambridge Encyclopedia of Anthropology*. <http://doi.org/10.29164/18deleuze>

Review Essays

2021 "Can Anthropology Look to the Future?" [Review of Abou Farman's *On Not Dying: Secular Immortality in the Age of Technoscience* and Anya Bernstein's *The Future of Immortality*." *Public Books*. <https://www.publicbooks.org/can-anthropology-look-to-the-future/>

2021 "Wild Thought: A New Translation of *La Pensée sauvage*." *Journal of the American Academy of Religion*. 89(4): 1462-1471.

2021 "'The Wheels Came Off': COVID-19, Mormon Missions, and the Christian Nation-State(?)." *Christian Nations Project*, University of Edinburgh. <https://thechristiannationproject.net/bialecki/>

2018 "Anthropology and Theology in Parallax: a review of Douglas Erickson, *Living the Future: The Kingdom of God and the Holy Spirit in the Vineyard Movement*. 22(May). <http://aotcpres.com/articles/anthropology-theology-parallax/>

2017 "Turn, Turn, Turn," a review of Martin Holbraad and Morten Axel Pedersen, *The ontological turn: an anthropological exposition*. In *Public Books*. <http://www.publicbooks.org/turn-turn-turn/>

2016 "The Genealogy of Ethical Life," a review of Webb Keane, *Ethical Life: Its Natural and Social Histories*. In *Marginalia Review of Books* (an LA Review of Books Portal). <http://marginalia.lareviewofbooks.org/genealogy-ethical-life-jon-bialecki/>

2015 "The Problem with Critique, and Critique as a Problem," a review of Talal Asad, Wendy Brown, Judith Butler, Saba Mahmood, *Is Critique Secular?* (2nd Edition). In *Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute*. 21(1):202-205.

2014 Review of Daniel Colucciello Barber, *Deleuze and the Naming of God: Post-Secularism and the Future of Immanence* and F. LeRon Shults *Iconoclastic Theology: Gilles Deleuze and the Secretion of Atheism*. In *Religion in Society: Advances in Research*. 5:261-267.

2014 Review of Brent Nongbri, *Before Religion: History of a Modern Concept*. In AnthroCyBib: The Anthropology of Christianity Bibliographic Blog <http://anthrocybib.net/2014/03/06/ending-a-conversation-with-system-r-book-review-of-nongbris-before-religion/>

2013 Review of Daniel Colucciello Barber, *On Diaspora: Christianity, Religion, and Secularity*. In AnthroCyBib: The Anthropology of Christianity Bibliographic Blog <http://anthrocybib.net/2013/03/20/against-heresiologies-book-review-of-barbers-on-diaspora-christianity-religion-and-secularity/>

Book and Media Reviews

2024 Review of Jennifer Huberman. *Transhumanism: from ancestors to avatars*. In *Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute* 30(1): 243-244

2020 Review of Jessica Johnson, *Biblical Porn: Affect, Labor, and Pastor Mark Driscoll's Evangelical Empire.* In *Current Anthropology* 61(1): 119-120

2019 Review of Gina Calvin and Joanna Brooks, eds. *Decolonizing Mormonism: Approaching a Postcolonial Zion*. In *Mormon Studies Review*. 6:117-122.

2018 Review of Kevin Lewis O'Neill, *Secure the Soul: Christian Piety and Gang Prevention in Guatemala*. In *Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute*. 24(1):216-217.

2016 Review of Anna Strhan, *Aliens & Strangers? The Struggle for Coherence in the Everyday Lives of Evangelicals*. In *Theology* 119(4):281-282.

2016 Review of Matthew Tomlinson, *Ritual Textuality: Patterns and Motion in Performance*. In *Magic, Ritual, and Witchcraft* 10(2):242-244.

2016 Review of Talena Sanders, *Liahona*. In AnthroCyBib: The Anthropology of Christianity Bibliographic Blog <http://www.blogs.hss.ed.ac.uk/anthrocybib/2016/01/19/liahona-film-review/>

2014 Review of Alice Beck Kehow, *Militant Christianity*. In *Religion in Society* 4:221-223.

2014 Review of Liana Chua, *The Christianity of Culture*. In *Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute* 20(1):160-161.

2013 Review of T.M. Luhrmann, *When God Talks back: Understanding the American Evangelical Relationship with God*. In *Magic, Ritual, and Witchcraft* 8(2):204-209.

2012 Review of James Faubion, *An Anthropology of Ethics*. In *Soumen Anthropologi: The Finnish Journal of Anthropology* 37(1):54-55.

2012 Review of Omri Elisha, *Moral Ambition: Mobilization and Outreach in Evangelical Megachurches*. In *Anthropological Quarterly* 85(3):973-978.

2011 Review of Jarrett Zigon, *HIV Is God's Blessing: Rehabilitating Morality in Neoliberal Russia*. In *Soumen Anthropologi: The Finnish Journal of Anthropology* 36(3):82-83.

2009 Review of Brian Howell, *Christianity in the Local Context*. In *Anthropology News* 50(4):47-48 [As part of the Society for Anthropology of Religion column].

2008 Review of David Smilde, *Reason to Believe. H-Pentecostalism*, H-Net Reviews, July, 2008. <http://www.hnet.org/reviews/showrev.cgi?path=19667121692816>.

2006 Review of Vincent Crapanzano, *Imaginative Horizons*. In *Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute*. 12:687-688.

Responses

2022 Response to Liana Chua, “‘If God is with us, who can be against us?’ Christianity, cosmopolitics, and living with difference in Sarawak, Malaysian Borneo.” *Current Anthropology* 63(6): DOI:10.1086/722300

2020 Response to Naomi Haynes, “The Expansive Present: A New Model of Christian Time” *Current Anthropology* 61(1): 57-76. [Bialecki Response, pp. 66-67].

2019 Response to Johanna Bard Richlin, “The Affective Therapeutics of Migrant Faith.” *Current Anthropology* 60(3):369-390 [Bialecki response, pp. 381-382].

2018 Response to Paolo Heywood, “Making Difference: Queer Activism and Anthropological Theory.” *Current Anthropology* 59(3):314-331. [Bialecki response, pp. 324-325].

Commentary

2024 “Asbury, Surprise, and the Fate of American Christian Nationalism.” Political Theology Network, symposium “Revivals: Now & Then,” May 30.
<https://politicaltheology.com/asbury-surprise-and-the-fate-of-american-christian-nationalism/>

2018 “The Highpoint Church Standing Ovation.” *Anthropology News* (Society for Linguistic Anthropology section news page). January 26th
(<http://www.anthropology-news.org/index.php/2018/01/26/the-highpoint-church-standing-ovation/>)

2014 “A morale booster on careers, job searches, and grants: if you’re doing it right, it hurts!” *The Dirt: UCSD Graduate Anthropology Student Newsletter*.

2010 “Virtual Christianity,” posted in the Social Science Research Council’s Immanent Frame website on October 29th (<http://blogs.ssrc.org/tif/2010/10/29/virtual-christianity/>)

Interviews and Scholarly Conversations

2025 “After Life.” Scholarly conversation with Jeanne Kormina. *Comparative Studies in Society and History*, “Under the Rubric,” June 12. <https://sites.lsa.umich.edu/cssh/2025/06/12/after-life-jon-bialecki-and-jeanne-kormina-discuss-mormon-transhumanism-the-remains-of-tsar-nicholas-ii-and-the-multiple-temporalities-of-death/>

2021 “Machines for Making Gods: Exploring Mormon Transhumanism Featuring Jon Bialecki.” Interview by Stephan Betts. *Saints and Scholars Podcast*. <https://mormonstudies.as.virginia.edu/event/machines-for-making-gods-exploring-mormon-transhumanism-feat-jon-bialeckiseason-3-episode-4/>

2019 “Jon Bialecki on his book, *A Diagram for Fire*.” Interview by Anna Eisenstein. *CaMP Anthropology*. *CaMP Anthropology*. <https://campanthropology.org/2019/08/26/jon-bialecki-a-diagram-for-fire/>

2018 “AE Interviews Jon Bialecki, winner of the Sharon Stephens Prize for his book *A Diagram for Fire: Miracles and Variation in an American Charismatic Movement*.” Interview by Bryan Dougan. *American Ethnologist* website. <http://americanethnologist.org/features/interviews/aes-interviews-jon-bialecki>

Interviews (with self as interviewer)

2021 “Finding Vessels for Our Lights.” (Interview with Ori Mautner on his 2020 *Society for the Anthropology of Religion* Graduate Paper Prize, “‘Finding Vessels for Our Lights’: Buddhist-Derived Meditation as an Ethical Means for Jewish Encounters with the Divine”). *Anthropology News*. <https://www.anthropology-news.org/articles/finding-vessels-for-our-lights/>

2020 “Matt Tomlinson on his book, *God Is Samoan*.” *CaMP Anthropology*.
<https://campanthropology.org/?s=matt+tomlinson&submit=Search>

2020 “Tom Boylston on his book, *The Stranger at the Feast: Prohibition and Mediation in an Ethiopian Orthodox Christian Community*. CaMP Anthropology.
<https://campanthropology.org/2020/10/12/tom-boylston/>

2020 “Richard Irvine on his book, *An Anthropology of Deep Time: Geological Temporality and Social Life*.” CaMP Anthropology. <https://campanthropology.org/?s=Richard+irvine&submit=Search>

2018 “Naomi Haynes on her book, *Moving by the Spirit: Pentecostal Social Life on the Zambian Copperbelt*.” CaMP Anthropology.
<https://campanthropology.org/2018/05/21/naomi-haynes-moving-by-the-spirit/>

Presentations

Invited Presentations & Closed Conferences

2023 “Machinic Kin: Mormon Transhumanists, Genealogical Archives, and Artificial Intelligences.” Paper presented at the “Technoscientific Immortality Workshop” University of Bergen, October 3rd.

2023 “Sexbots Playing the Imitation Game: Mormonism, Transhumanism, and the Turing Test as Trolley Prize.” Paper presented as part of the Transhumanism, Immortality, and Religion lecture series, Drake University, May 11th.

2022 “The Frozen Archive and the Baptized Dead: Secular Transhumanism, Mormonism, and the Workings of the Resurrection.” (Title publicized as “ ‘The Cryonic Body as Archive: Transhumanism, Mormonism, and the Workings of the Resurrection’ ”). Paper presented to the Anthropology Research Seminar, Queen’s University Belfast, October 25th.

2022 “Mormons, Magic, and Tarot.” Roundtable presented by the Institute for Religion, Culture, and Public Life, and the The Society of Fellows and Heyman Center for the Humanities, Columbia University, October 12th.

2022 “The Frozen Archive and the Baptized Dead: Secular Transhumanism, Mormonism, and the Workings of the Resurrection.” Paper presented at American Studies, Religion Department, Columbia University, October 10th.

2022 “Sex-bots playing the imitation game: the Turing Test as a trolley problem.” Paper presented at “Trolley Problem anthropology: stylized ethical dilemmas and the response of ethnography,” Cambridge University, July 6th.

2020 “An Eldritch Singularity: theorizing rapid [religious] change.” Paper presented as part of the featured panel “Rapid Religious Change,” AAR/SBL Southeastern Regional Meeting. February 29th.

2019 “What is Mormon Transhumanism.” Talk presented at McLester Colloquium, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. September 25th.

2019 “Miraculous Akrasia” Paper presented at “Ethnographies of Akrasia,” London School of Economics. July 8th & 9th

2019 “Developments in the Anthropology of Christianity.” (Courtney Handman, co-presenter). Paper presented at “Mind and Spirit Workshop 2019,” Stanford University. May 3rd and 4th.

2019 “Antinomies of Resurrection.” Paper presented to the 2019 Philosophy of Religion Conference, Claremont Graduate University, February 21st-23rd.

2018 "On (not) explaining the domestic miracle." Paper presented at "Ethnographies of explanation and the explanation of ethnography: beyond ethnographic foundationalism?" Closed conference at the University of Cambridge, March 22nd -23rd.

2018 "Miracles, in the Future Imperfect." Keynote presented to GloPent conference, at VU University in Amsterdam, February 9th.

2018 "Anthropology and Systematic Theology." Paper presented to NOSTER thematic interdisciplinary seminar "Changing the tacks: exploring new directions towards an interdisciplinary study of the lifeworlds of believers, A dialogue between cultural anthropology and systematic theology," VU University in Amsterdam, February 8th.

2017 "Speculative Religion and the Belief/Discipline Complex." Paper presented at colloquium for department of Religious Studies, UNC Charlotte, March 13th.

2016 "The divine and demonic psychic economy of character." Paper presented at "Anthropology of Character" conference, St. Andrews University, September 1st.

2016 "Ontology without grounds: Ethics, Religion, and the Ontological Turn." Weekly seminar, Brigham Young University, April 8th.

2016 "Pentecostal dualism, ontological monism, and the amoral charism." Paper presented at "Pentecostal Dualism" Conference, University of Bergen, April 6th. [Paper read in my absence].

2016 "Signs and Wonders." Public conversation with the artist Michael Stevenson about his one-man show "Signs and Wonders." Midway Contemporary Art, Minneapolis Minnesota, April 2nd.

2016 "Why Spinoza called it The Ethics: On religion and salvaging anthropology's ontological turn." Paper presented to UCSD Humanities Center working group Politics, Ethics, Ontology: An Inquiry into the Ontologies of Nature, February 26th.

2015 "Anthropology, Theology, and the Problem of Incommensurability." Paper presented at the John Tempelton Foundation "Theologically-Engaged Anthropology: What Can Theology Contribute to Cultural Anthropology and ethnography?" Conference, University of Georgia, September 21st.

2015 "Bringing Discipline to Heel," Paper presented at "Christianity and Discipline" Conference, University of Edinburgh, September 10th.

2015 "The Cunning of Protestant Language." Keynote paper presented at "Word letter and language in Christian culture" Conference, University of Helsinki, June 23rd.

2015 "New." Paper presented at the Terms of Faith Conference, London School of Economics, June 20th.

2014 Introduction to the plenary session "Can we have our nature/culture dichotomy back, please?" at ASA14 Decennial "Anthropology and Enlightenment" conference, University of Edinburgh, June 22nd.

2014 "On Ethical Work and 'Miracle Work': Extensive Circuits and Insensitive transformations on the edges of Charismatic Prayer." Paper presented at the SSRC Comparative Ethnographies of Prayer Conference, London School of Economics Department of Anthropology, May 17th.

2014 "After the Denominozoic: evolution, differentiation, denominationalism." Paper presented to the UCSD Department of Anthropology Christianities Workshop, May 12th (expanded version of "After the Denominozoic" paper give at the 2013 Wenner-Gren Symposium on "The Anthropology of Christianity).

2014 "'The Lord Says You Speak as Harlots': Intensity, Affect, and Affectation in American Neo-Pentecostal Language." Paper presented to the University of Edinburgh Social Anthropology Seminar, February 7th.

2014 "The Third Wave and the Third World: The Role of Missions and Global Christianity in the Foundation of the American Neo-charismatic Movement." Paper presented to University of Edinburgh Centre for the Study of World Christianity: Seminar Programme, January 21st.

2013 "After the Denominozoic: evolution, differentiation, denominationalism." Paper presented at Wenner-Gren Symposium #147 on "The Anthropology of Christianity: Unity, Diversity, New Directions," Paper presented March 8-15, at Tivoli Palácio de Seteais, Sintra, Portugal.

2013 "Deterritorialized Spirit, Reterritorialized Submission: Charismatic personhood, Pentecostal portability, and the in/dividualism debate in the anthropology of religion." Paper presented to Rice University's departments of Anthropology & Religion, January 30th.

2012 "Surprise and Submission as Virtual Field: Pentecostal and Neo-Charismatic Christianity in Southern California and Beyond." Paper presented to the University of Cambridge Division of Anthropology, November 26th.

2012 "The Willing Subject, or the Subject of Will? Pharmacological, Devotional, and Political Aporias of Personhood in Neo-Charismatic Southern California." Paper presented at "The Will," SSRC conference organized by Kevin Lewis O'Neill and Tomas Matza, University of Toronto, September 29th.

2012 "Surprise and Submission as Virtual Field: Pentecostal and Neo-Charismatic Christianity in Southern California and Beyond." Paper presented to the University of Edinburgh Social Anthropology Department, June 12th.

2012 "Does God Exist in Methodological Atheism? On Tanya Luhrmann's When God Talks Back and Bruno Latour." Paper presented at the Comparative Christianities Conference, University of California San Diego, April 28th.

2012 "The Devil in SoCal." Paper presented to the Warren Scholars Seminar, UCSD, February 7th.

2012 "Denominational Differentiation: Foucauldian Ethics, Charismatic Affects, and the Anthropology of Christianity in Southern California." Paper presented to William & Mary College, January 27th.

2010 "Durkheim, Whitehouse, and Memory's Time: Notes on Binary Systems, Composites and Intensities, and the Cognitive Anthropology of Religion." Paper presented at MERBEAR, UCSD-UCLA Workshop Series on Culture and Mind, October 22nd.

2010 "Southern California, the Dark Side of Planet Foucault: Ethics, Subjectivity, and the Anthropology of Christianity." Paper presented to the London School of Economics Anthropology Department Friday Seminar, October 15th.

2008 "No Caller I.D. for the Soul – demonization, discernment, and the unstable subject of Protestant language ideology." Presentation to Rice University Mellon Dissertation Fellowship Working Group, August 30th (expanded version of 'No Caller I.D. for the Soul' paper give at the 2007 Society for the Anthropology of Religion meeting).

2007 "Perils of Pauline, or, Disjuncture, Continental Philosophy's New Political Paul, and the Question of Progressive Christianity in a Southern Californian Third Wave Church." American Studies Colloquium at Reed College, March 20th (expanded version of 'Perils of Pauline' given at the 2006 annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association).

2007 "Demonization, Charisms, and Subjectivity in The Vineyard." Paper presented at the conference "Ritual Practice in Charismatic Christianity," University of Copenhagen, Center for African Studies, Copenhagen. February 3-4, 2007.

2006 "Between Stewardship and Sacrifice: Agency and Economy in a Southern California Charismatic Church." Paper presented at Reed College, August 8th (expanded version of 'Stewardship to Sacrifice in Southern California Neo-Charismatic Culture,' given at the 2005 biannual meeting for Society for Anthropology of Religion).

2005 "Hearing from God in Southern California." Talk presented to the Psychodynamic Seminar at the Department of Anthropology, University of California San Diego.

Conference Presentations

2019 "Untitled Paper." Presented at "Rethinking Spirits New Discussions of Human-Spirit Interactions." American Association for Religion annual meeting.

2019 "The Ethnography of the Gods: anthropological anxieties and transhumanist speculation." Paper presented as part of "Ways out: Race, Technology, and Anthropological Speculation." At the annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association.

2019 "Response." Paper presented as part of "Author-Meets-Critics: A Discussion of Jon Bialecki's A Diagram for Fire: Miracles and Variation in an American Charismatic Movement," Presented as part of at the biannual meeting of the Society for the Anthropology of Religion.

2019 "Resurrection, DNA, and the Quantum archeologists." Paper presented as part of "The Politics of Knowledge in Esoteric and Occult Traditions," Presented as part of at the biannual meeting of the Society for the Anthropology of Religion.

2018 "Computers and Robots, Devils and Gods." Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association.

2018 "Other senses." Paper presented as part of "Author Meets Critic Panel: Martijn Oosterbaan's Transmitting the Spirit: Religious Conversion, Media and Urban Violence in Brazil," GloPent conference, at VU University in Amsterdam.

2017 "Latter Days." Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association.

2017 Untitled paper for the roundtable "Critique as Horizon, Critique as Specter." Presented at the biannual meeting of the Society for the Anthropology of Religion.

2016 "Religious Speculation and the Belief/Discipline Complex: Crisis and Apostasy in the Mormon Church and a Return of Speculative Thought." Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association.

2015 "Charisma:Amateurism::Word:Commodity." Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association.

2015 "Introduction: The Seriousness of Anthropology: Religion, Ontology, Critique." Presented as part of the Invited Panel "The Seriousness of Anthropology: Religion, Ontology, Critique," an invited panel of the Society for the Anthropology Religion. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association.

2015 "Nations without States and States without Nations: Christian Nationalism and Christian Withdrawal in Southern California." Paper presented at the biannual meeting of the Society for the Anthropology of Religion.

2014 "Apocalyptic Diversity, the Ethnography of Martyrs, Demonic Anthropology and Having a Heart: A Topography and Topology of Alterity Among American Charismatic Evangelicals." Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association.

2014 “Cosmology and transhumanism, Mormons and utopia.” Paper presented at ASA14 Decennial “Anthropology and Enlightenment” conference.

2013 “Divine Monologue and Sensual Heterogeneity: Prophecy, Authority, and Subjectivity in American Charismatic Christianity.” Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association.

2013 “Anthropological Virtuality’s Virtuality: Why a turn to Deleuze in the Anthropology of Religion?” Paper presented at the 2013 biannual meeting of the Society for the Anthropology of Religion.

2012 “Deterritorializing Spirit, Reterritorializing Submission: Language, Exchange and Selfhood in Neo-Charismatic California.” Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association.

2012 “Does God exist in methodological atheism? Notes on object orientated ontology from the ethnography of Southern Californian Neo-Charismatics.” Paper presented at the 2012 annual meeting of the American Ethnological Society.

2012 “Apostolic Networks in the Third Wave of the Spirit: An Interdisciplinary Discussion – John Wimber and the Vineyard.” Paper presented as part of the panel “Theology Symposium: Apostolic Networks in The Third Wave of The Spirit: An Interdisciplinary Discussion,” at the 2012 annual meeting of the Society for Pentecostal Studies.

2011 “I’m sorry Lord for the thing I’ve made it: The Worship-commodity and the metastases of the confessional.” Paper presented as part of “Confessions’ Tidemarks, Traces, And Legacies: Confession, The Confessional, And the Confession of Faith in The Anthropology of Christianity and Beyond,” an invited panel co-sponsored by the Society for the Anthropology of Religion and the Society for Psychological Anthropology.

2011 “An Empirical Miraculous: The Church Growth Movement, the Vineyard, and the Evangelical roots of a Charismatic Christianity.” Paper presented at the 2011 biannual meeting of the Society for the Anthropology of Religion.

2010 “Notes towards the global demonic subjective economy.” Paper presented at the 2010 annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association.

2010 “‘The Postmodern’ as New Dispensation: An Apocalyptic Cultural Turn in a Post-Apocalyptic Christian Milieu.” Paper presented at the 20th International Association for the History of Religions Quinquennial World Congress, August 20th.

2009 “‘Saved again for the very first time’: continuity and disjuncture in second generation Charismatics and Pentecostals.” 2009 annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association.

2009 “Law and Vision – Pauline Militancy and Neo-Charismatic Ecstasy.” Paper presented at the 2009 biannual meeting of the Society for the Anthropology of Religion.

2008 “‘We’re Just Followers of Jesus’ – Transcendence, Political Contestation, and the Death of Religion in Southern Californian Neo-Charismatic Christianity.” Paper presented as part of “Liberal Religiosities,” an invited American Anthropological Association panel co-sponsored by the Association for Political and Legal Anthropology and the Society for Anthropology of Religion sections.

2007 “No Caller I.D. for the Soul – demonization, discernment, and the unstable subject of Protestant language ideology.” Paper presented at the 2007 biannual meeting of the Society for the Anthropology of Religion.

2006 “Perils of Pauline, or, Disjuncture, Continental Philosophy’s New Political Paul, and the Question of Progressive Christianity in a Southern Californian Third Wave Church.” Invited Paper presented at the 2006 annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association.

2005 “‘The Postmodern’ as New Dispensation: Uncertainty and the Future in the Southern California Neo-Charismatic Church.” Paper presented at the 2005 annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association.

2005 ‘Stewardship to Sacrifice in Southern California Neo-Charismatic Culture.’ Paper presented at the 2005 biannual meeting of the Society for the Anthropology of Religion.

Professional Activities

2025 Co-organizer (with Meadhbh McIvor) and discussant for the roundtable “Anthropology of/and Universalism(s).” Annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association, New Orleans, November 21.

2025 Roundtable participant for “When The Dead Aren’t Ghosts: The Ethical-Political Dimensions of Communicating with Spirits.” Executive roundtable, annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association, New Orleans, November 21.

2023 Roundtable participant for “The Anthropology Of Mormonism, Or, The Familiar Strange.” Annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association.

2022 Discussant for two-day double session “Becoming Gods: Techno-scientific and Other Deifications.” Royal Anthropological Institute conference on “Anthropology, AI and the Future of Human Society.”

2020 Co-Organizer (with Ayala Fader) and Chair of the Panel “The a/religious internet and technologies of Doubt.” Annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association.

2019 Discussant for the panel “‘I Learned It from the Internet’: Online Knowledge Consumption and Embodiment.” Biannual meeting of the Society for the Anthropology of Religion.

2018 Discussant for the panel “The Stranger in Mormonism: Others, Intimates, and Encounters. Annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association.

2018 Organizer of the panel (with Matt Tomlinson) of the panel “New Perspectives on the Extrahuman.” Annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association.

2017 Discussant for the panel “Controversy and Community: Examining the Intersections of Religion and Sexuality.” Annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association.

2017 Organizer of the panel (with Sowparnika Balaswaminathan) of the panel “Open and Closed Futures.” Annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association.

2016 Organizer and chair of the panel “Author Meets Critics: Webb Keane’s Ethical Life - Its Natural and Social Histories.” Annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association.

2016 Discussant for the panel “Interiority, Politics, and the Study of Religion (Part 1).” Annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association.

2016 Participant in “Problems in the Study of Religion,” A 2016 NEH Summer Institute for College and University Faculty. May 31st to June 17th, University of Virginia.

2015 Chair of the Invited Panel Session “The Seriousness of Anthropology: Religion, Ontology, Critique,” an invited panel of the Society for the Anthropology Religion. Annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association.

2015 Participant in Society for the Anthropology of Religion Roundtable "Author Meets Critics: Anthropologists Respond to Timothy Larsen's *The Slain God: Anthropologists and The Christian Faith*." Annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association.

2015 Discussant for the panel "In Bad Faith: Trolling as Religious Praxis" at the biannual meeting of the Society for the Anthropology of Religion.

2014 Participant in the APLA panel "Launching a Career in Academia" at the annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association.

2014 Discussant for the panel "Rights and Responsibilities among Collective and Corporate Persons" at the annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association.

2014 Co-organizer (with Limor Samimian-Darash) of the panel "Uncertainty and the Scenario" at the biannual meeting of the Society for the Anthropology of Religion.

2014 Co-organizer (with Magnus Course and Jamie Cross) of the plenary session "Can we have our nature/culture dichotomy back, please?" at ASA14 Decennial "Anthropology and Enlightenment" conference.

2014 Co-organizer (with Thomas Boylston) of the panel "What is (religious) Enlightenment? Kant, freedom and obedience in religion today" at ASA14 Decennial "Anthropology and Enlightenment" conference.

2013 Chair of the invited panel session "The Social Life of Prayers: Current and Future Engagements for an Anthropology of Christianity," organized by Andreas Bandak, at the biannual meeting of the Society for the Anthropology of Religion.

2013 Organizer and chair of the double panel session "Syncretism as Theory: Deleuzian Assemblages, Affects, Intensities and Virtualities in the Anthropology of Religion" at the biannual meeting of the Society for the Anthropology of Religion.

2012 Organizer (with Girish Diswani) and chair of the double panel session "Breaking Down In/Dividualism: Interrogating the Borders and Crossings of the Religious Subject" at the annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association.

2012 Respondent to paper by Jordan Haug ("Phallic Language, Vulvar Abduction: Abelam registers of Creativity") during the February 14th meeting of the "Signs and Society Workshop" at the University of California San Diego Humanities Center.

2011 Organizer (with Andreas Bandak) and chair of the invited double panel session co-sponsored by the Society for the Anthropology of Religion and the Society for Psychological Anthropology, "Confessions' Tidemarks, Traces, and Legacies: Confession, The Confessional, And the Confession of Faith in the Anthropology of Christianity and Beyond," at the annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association.

2011 Discussant for the panel "Transformation, Embodiment, and Materiality in Religious Practice" at the biannual meeting of the Society for the Anthropology of Religion.

2010 Organizer (with Robin Shoaps and Henri Gooren) and chair of the invited session of the Society for the Anthropology of Religion "Belief, Participation, Circulation: Challenges in Participant-observer Fieldwork with Evangelical, Pentecostal, and Charismatic Christianities," for the annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association.

2009 Organizer and chair (with Pamela Klassen) of the session "Pauline Perspectives: subjectivity, politics, and rupture in theory and practice," for the biannual meeting of the Society for the Anthropology of Religion.

2007 Organizer and chair of the session “Freedom and Fetish: A Discussion with Webb Keane on his new book *Christian Moderns*,” for the annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association.

2007 Organizer and chair (with Eric Hoenes del Pinal) of the session “Beyond Logos: Limits and Contradictions of Language Ideology in the Anthropology of Christianity” for the biannual meeting of the Society for the Anthropology of Religion.

2006 Organizer and chair of the invited session of the Society for the Anthropology of Religion “Disjuncture, the Political, and ‘Actually Existing Christianities,’” for the annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association.

2005 Organizer and Chair (with Ryan Schram) of the session “Making Moral Economies: The Ethics of Exchange in Global Christianities” for the biannual meeting of the Society for the Anthropology of Religion.

Professional service positions

Chair, 2020 Clifford Geertz Prize Committee, Society for the Anthropology of Religion.

Co-editor of the book series *New Directions in the Anthropology of Christianity*, Bloomsbury Press.

Elected Board Member, Society for the Anthropology of Religion (2015 -2018 terms).

Founding co-curator (with James Bielo) of *New Directions in the Anthropology of Christianity* website (formerly AnthroCyBib: The Anthropology of Christianity Bibliographic Blog) <<http://anthrocybib.net> > (2011-present).

Peer-review of article manuscripts for HAU, Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute, Cultural Anthropology, Anthropological Theory, American Ethnologist, Ethnos, Comparative Studies in Science and History, Ethos, Journal of Linguistic Anthropology, Journal of Ritual Studies, Current Anthropology, Culture and Religion, PoLAR, Anthropology & Education Quarterly, The Australian Journal of Anthropology, Language in Society and Pragmatics and Society, Religion.

Peer-review of project proposal for the John Templeton Foundation

Peer-review of project proposal for the National Science Foundation

Assessor for the Australian Research Council.

Webmaster and list-serve moderator, as officer for the Society for the Anthropology of Religion (2005-2009).

Student Representative to Executive Committee, Society for the Anthropology of Religion (Elected term: 2004-2006).

Professional Organizations and Affiliations

American Anthropological Association

American Ethnological Association

Committee for the Anthropology of Science, Technology & Computing

Society for the Anthropology of Religion

Society for Psychological Anthropology

Media Mentions

2021 “Machines for Making Gods: Exploring Mormon Transhumanism featuring Jon Bialecki.” University of Virginia Mormon Studies Podcast. Season 3, Episode 4 (June 22).

2019 “Episode 480: What is Religious Belief.” Philosophy Talk (NPR Radio). May 5th.

2017 McWilliams, James. “The Miracle of Trump: Why Did Evangelicals Deliver the Votes for a Sinner.” Pacific Standard. February 13th.

2016 Chan, Dawn. “The Immortality Upgrade.” The Atlantic. April 20th.

Courses Taught

Introduction to Anthropology (Reed College, 2006, 2007, 2008)

Ethnography of Global Christianities (Reed College, 2007 & 2008)

Debates in the Ethnography of Southeast Asia (Reed College, 2007)

Religious Language and Religious Subjectivity (Reed College, 2007)

Possession and Human Agency (Reed College, 2008)

American Christianity: History and Culture (Reed College, 2008)

After Structuralism (Reed College, 2009)

Person, Self, and Subject (Reed College, 2009)

Anthropology of Religion (UCSD, 2009, 2010, 2012, 2013, 2023, 2024)

Cultural Anthropology (UCSD, 2010, 2012, 2017)

Ethnography of Global Christianities [Lecture version] (UCSD, 2010)

Ethnography of the United States (UCSD, 2011)

Politics, Religion, Anthropology (UCSD, 2011)

Anthropology of the Devil (UCSD, 2011)

Introduction to Sociocultural Anthropology [for majors] (UCSD, 2012, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024)

The Sociocultural Formation of Intense Subjective States (UCSD, 2012)

The Anthropology of the End of the World: Millenarian Movements Across Cultures (UCSD, 2012)

Anthropology of Fantasy (UCSD, 2013)

Psychological Anthropology (UCSD, 2013)

Anthropology of the United States (University of Edinburgh, 2013)

Belief, Thought and Language [Linguistic Anthropology required course] (University of Edinburgh, 2014 & 2015)

Anthropology of Christianity (University of Edinburgh 2014)

Key Concepts in Social Anthropology (University of Edinburgh 2014)

Language and Religion (UCSD 2017)

Introduction to Anthropology [lower division] (UCSD 2018)

Religion and Ecology: How Religion Matters in the Anthropocene (UCSD 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023)

The Anthropology of Artificial Intelligence (UCSD 2024)

Numerous other courses.

Other Previous Employment

2003-2006 Editorial Assistant to the journal Anthropological Theory.

2001-2003 Instructor, Muir College Writing Program, University of California San Diego.

2000-2001 Teaching Assistant, Revelle College Writing Program, University of California San Diego.

1999-2000 Head Teaching Assistant, Department of Anthropology, University of California San Diego.

Academic Awards, Fellowships and Grants

2018 - Honorable Mention in the Clifford Geertz Prize by the Society for the Anthropology of Religion.

2017 - Awarded the 2017 Sharon Stephens Prize by the American Ethnological Association

2016 - NEH Summer Institute grant recipient

2009 - ACLS New Faculty Fellows University of California San Diego campus nominee

2008 - Summer Scholarship Travel Grant, Reed College

2007 - Stillman Drake Grant, Reed College

2007 - Summer Scholarship Travel Grant, Reed College

2004 - Second Place 2004 UCSD George Haydu Prize (given for work in the study of culture)

2001 - FLAS Summer Fellowship for SEASSI at University of Wisconsin-Madison

2000 - FLAS Summer Fellowship for SEASSI at University of Wisconsin-Madison

1997 - Passed California State Bar

1997 - University of San Diego Law School Class standing: Top 1% (2/285)

1997 - Summa Cum Laude, Order of the Coif (University of San Diego, School of Law)

1997 - Joseph P. Busch, Jr. USD Criminal Justice Award

1995 - Law Merit Achievement Scholarship, University of San Diego

1995 - Member Editorial Board, San Diego Law Review

1995 - Warren Family Scholarship, University of San Diego