

# WITOLD WOLNY, PH.D.

Big Stone Gap, VA 24219

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## EDUCATION AND CREDENTIALS

**Doctor of Philosophy, Summa Cum Laude (2007)**

University of Seville, Department of Philosophy, Logic and Philosophy of Science – Seville, Spain  
Dissertation: “The Postmodern World-View as a Bio-religiousness.”

**Pre-doctoral Research Certificate, Contemporary World-views (1995)**

University of Uppsala, Sweden, Department of Experimental Studies of Beliefs and Ideologies.

**Master of Arts, Applied Theology (1993)**

University of Salamanca, Department of Applied Theology,– Salamanca, Spain

**Master of Arts & Licentiate in Sacred Theology (1989)**

Theological Institute ‘San Ildefonso,’ Theology Seminar San Damaso in Madrid – Toledo, Spain

**Bachelor of Arts, Philosophy and Theology (1988)**

Pontifical Academy of Theology, Institute of Theology in Tarnow – Cracow, Poland

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### ADMINISTRATION

THE UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA’S COLLEGE AT WISE – WISE, VIRGINIA (2002 – PRESENT)

*Director of International Programs (2006 – PRESENT)*

- Transformed a college lacking an international flair into one of the most innovative and comprehensive internationalized collegiate experiences in Virginia.
- Founded two international programs and offices (Seville, Spain and Wise) from the ground up. Established the administrative framework, authored policies, assessed liability risk, and calculated budgets.
- Devised cross-cultural curriculums, expanded programs and increased diversity awareness.

- Designed and conducted workshops for Faculty about designing, procedures, policies and direction of Study Aboard trips.
- Worked on Title VI grant for the Online International Collaborative Network.

UNIVERSITY OF SEVILLE, UNIVERSITY COLLEGE 'CARDENAL SPINOLA', AND HIGHER VOCATIONAL CENTERS OF THE CEU FOUNDATION – SEVILLE, SPAIN (1995 – 2002)

***Director of Department of International Relations (1996 – 2002)***

- Originated wide-ranging, impactful bonds with international partners, developed policies and fostered meaningful partnerships.
- Established international agreements and partnerships (23 in 14 countries), implemented comprehensive global education initiatives, spread internationalism across campus and into all academic departments.

***Head of the Human Sciences Division (1995 – 1996)***

- Coordinated Human Sciences Faculty and curriculum, served as liaison between the Division and the Academic Dean.

**TEACHING**

THE UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA'S COLLEGE AT WISE – WISE, VIRGINIA (2002 – PRESENT)

***Tenured Associate Professor in Comparative Religion (2007 – PRESENT)***

- Designed and taught a variety of online, hybrid and in-class courses including Philosophy, Religion, Humanities, Spanish and Music (13)
- Internationalized campus life by implementing bold, strategic initiatives such as redesigning policies, updating marketing strategies, accurately budgeting costs, and enhancing public relations awareness.
- Collaborated on disparate academic disciplines to develop curriculum, evaluate processes, fund and budget programs, update safety and security protocols, and assess liability and risk management.
- Serve with distinction on numerous (9) college committees and as a member of the Faculty Senate.

- Chair the cross-discipline International Committee and serve as Director of the Fulbright Program.
- Served as consultant for implementation of a master program at Virginia International University.
- Liaison to NAFSA, the Forum on Education. Board member of the VIE. Spearheaded the use of specialized software to remotely manage international office online (Horizon, TerraDotta).
- Elected member of the AEIA Leadership Committee.
- Generated large, electronic footprint for international program website and social media outlets.
- Guided the Multicultural Alliance and promoted international awareness among students at venues such as Study Abroad Fairs, International Weeks, round-tables discussions, and cross-cultural events.
- Created the university's international office. Instituted long-lasting collaborations with the College's divisions and academic departments, administration, and staff.
- Conducted internal outreach to Admissions, Registrar, Financial Aid, Student Affairs, Housing, Human Resources, media and college relations.
- Coordinate and advise 14 faculty and staff members of the International Committee and its four subcommittees. Provide invaluable insight of the internationalization process which subsequently permeates the entire campus community.
- Designed Summer Program on International Cybersecurity and Entrepreneurship (SPICE) as a key component for the 2016 UVA's Strategic Investment Fund. Recently this project was granted final approval with a \$500,000 for its development.
- Designed a Strategic Plan for the new School of Business, with a goal of recruiting 160 international students (increasing overall recruitment by 100%).
- Encouraged innovative, team-oriented collaborative brainstorming and idea sharing,- a unique process which has been praised by several via bestowment of the Harrison Awards (2011 and 2015), chosen as exemplary service for SACS accreditation and presented on international educators' forums such as NAFSA (Association of International Educators or Virginia International Educators (VIE) and various forums overseas.
- Elected for the Leadership Development Committee of AIEA (Association of International Education Administrators).
- Recognized for Outstanding Service via bestowment of the Harrison Award in 2011 and 2015. Recipient of Student Leadership's Commitment to Diversity Award in 2013.

***Visiting Consultant for International Programs (2002 – 2006)***

- Initiated new bilateral agreements with universities in Europe and Latin America.

- Played a strategic role in planning a new minor and major course of instruction in religious studies.

UNIVERSITY OF SEVILLE, UNIVERSITY COLLEGE 'CARDENAL SPINOLA' – SEVILLE, SPAIN (1993 – 2002)

*Professor of Religion and Philosophy*

- Designed courses on Phenomenology of Religion and Philosophy in concert with the college' academic curriculum.
- Initiated annual Conference on Religion and Contemporary Culture (4 editions).

**ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

- Member of the Editorial Committee for "Themata Revista de Filosofia." Spain.
- Premier Consultant for designing Master of Science in Religious Leadership and Administration program at Virginia International University (Fairfax, Virginia) 2016.

**PUBLICATIONS**

**BOOKS**

1. "Szukac Warto, 101 Piosenek Witka Wolnego", Ed. Ksiegarnia Sw Jacka, Katowice, 2017.
2. Infierno y paraíso. El más allá en las tres culturas, (Hell and Paradise in the Three Cultures). Ed. with Jacinto Choza, Editorial Biblioteca Nueva, Madrid, 2004. ISBN: 45065225-2.
3. Orden Religioso y orden político en las Tres Culturas, (Religious and Political Order in the Three Cultures). Ed. with Jacinto Choza, Biblioteca Ciencias Humanas y de la Religión. Ed. Fund. San Pablo Andalucía CEU, Sevilla 2001. ISBN/D.L.: 84-931414-8.
4. Infieles y Bárbaros en las Tres Culturas, (Infidels and Barbarians in the Three Cultures). Ed. with Jacinto Choza, Biblioteca Ciencias Humanas y de la Religión. Ed. Fund. San Pablo Andalucía CEU, Sevilla 2000. ISBN/D.L.: 84-922252-9-7.
5. Las religiones monoteístas ante el tercer milenio, (Monotheistic Religions Facing the Third Millenium). Editor. Biblioteca Ciencias Humanas y de la Religión. Ed. Fund. San Pablo Andalucía, CEU, Sevilla 1999. ISBN: 84-922252-7-0.
6. Desde la frontera: la cultura contemporánea y el humanismo cristiano. (From the Border: Contemporary Culture and Christian Humanism). Editor. Biblioteca Ciencias Humanas y de la Religión. Ed. Fund. San Pablo Andalucía, CEU, Sevilla 1998. ISBN: 84-922252-4-6.

7. Religión y cultura contemporánea: religión, pseudorreligión y cosmovisión a finales del segundo milenio. (Religion, Pseudoreligion and Worldview at the End of the Second Millenium) Ed. Fund. San Pablo Andalucía CEU, Sevilla 1997. ISBN: 84-922252-3-8.

#### ARTICLES

1. "La religion postmoderna y el paradigm onto-teo-logico" (Postmodern Religion and the Onto-theological Paradigm) in: Hombre y Cultura, Estudios Themata, Sevilla, 2016, 107-119. ISBN: 9-788494-555-138.
2. "International Higher Education in the USA: Trends and Perspectives." E-journal Pädagogische Hochschule Niederösterreich, Austria, September 2015.
3. "What, How, and Why: The Geertzian Definition of Religion and Neurotheological Project on Meta and Mega-theology." International Journal of Humanities and Social Science (IJHSS), Vol. 2 No. 5; March 2012.
4. "Love in the Theory of Positive Disintegration." Heksis, Polish-English Online Quarterly bilingual (Polish-English) psychology journal, Barcelona-Warsow 2009.
5. "Mikolaj z Popielowa." Zarys, 1 (2001), Messel, Germany, 45-55.
6. "El problema antropológico de la desecularización." (Anthropological Problem of Secularization) Antropología y Humanismo, (various authors), CEU, Madrid, 1999. ISBN: 84-95219-08-5.
7. "World-view as a Religion. Postmodern Paradigm and the Biocentric World-View in Contemporary Scandinavia." Religión, Pseudorreligión y Cosmovisión al final del Segundo Milenio, Biblioteca Ciencias Humanas y de la Religión. Ed. Fund. San Pablo Andalucía CEU, Sevilla 1998, 73-103.
8. "The Religious and the Pseudo-religious in the Culture of Mass-media: Phenomenological key for the interpretation. Analysis of Madonna's 'Like a Prayer'." Religión, Pseudorreligión y Cosmovisión al final del Segundo Milenio, Biblioteca Ciencias Humanas y de la Religión. Ed. Fund. San Pablo Andalucía CEU, Sevilla 1998. ISBN: 84-922252-3-8.
9. "El mundo postmoderno y la religiosidad." Escuela Abierta, Sevilla, 1 (1998) 47-79.
10. "Spain is different, czyli cos o rodzinie w krainie torreadorów." Powiernik Rodzin, Katowice, Poland, February 1997.

#### PAPERS / LECTURES

1. "*Bringing the mountain to Mohammed: How to Internationalize A Rural College Through Innovative Summer Programs*" VIE conference, Norfolk, March 2019.

2. *"There is a Fantastic Song that Makes Your Blood Run Without Pain - Spiritual; and Pop-cultural Revolution in Poland In the Twilight of Communism"*. Paper accepted: International Religion in Society Conference, University of Berkeley, CA, April 2018.
3. "Religion is Fun: the Pop-Religion of the Millennials" Seminar of Three Cultures, University of Vilnius, Lithuania, June 2016.
4. "Religion and Violence – Oxymoron, Equation or Inequality?" Conference on Politics, Conflict and Development, Virginia International University, April 2016.
5. "New Ways to Experience Global Learning." Virginia International Educators conference, Randolph Malcolm College, April 2016.
6. "Religion of the Millennials in the Americas", Universidad de los Andes, Santiago, Chile, Jan. 2016.
7. "Global Education and International Programs in the USA: Recent Trends and Perspectives." Erasmus + International Week, Pädagogische Hochschule, Baden, Austria, June 2015.
8. "What Would You Do?" (Case studies for Study Abroad Directors) VIE Conference, JMU, Harrisonburg, October 2014.
9. "College Education and Religious Tolerance: Barbour's Models of Interaction between Science and Religion among UVA-Wise Students." The Fifth International Religion in Society Conference, University of Berkeley, CA, April 2015.
10. "A Universe with no Religion? Theological and Philosophical Implications of the Multiverse Theory." The Society for Scientific Study of Religion (SSSR) 2013 Meeting, Boston, Nov 2013.
11. "Models of Interaction between Science and Religion." American Academy of Religion-SECSOR Regional Conference, Atlanta, March 2014. Paper accepted.
12. "In Search of Soul: Unlocking the Spiritual Significance of the Third Factor for Assessment of Religiousness through the Theory of Positive Disintegration." Fourth International Conference on Religion and Spirituality in Society, April 2014, Universidad Nacional Costa Rica.
13. "The Apocalypse Now: The Symbolic Multiverse and the End of Biblical Paradigm." American Academy of Religion-SECSOR Regional Conference, Atlanta, March 2012.
14. "What, How and Why: Geertzian Definition of Religion and Neurotheological Project On Meta and Mega-theology." Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Atlanta, October 2010.
15. "The Third Factor and the Reality of Value Hierarchy." International Congress of the Institute for Positive Disintegration in Human Development, Chicago, July 2010.
15. "La música del lenguaje y el lenguaje de la música. Un estudio de sus coincidencias y disparidades." 59th Kentucky Foreign Language Conference, University of Kentucky, Lexington, April, 2006.

16. "De-secularization, Biocentrism and a New Grand Theory of Religion." Conference of the Society for the Study of Religion, Nature and Culture, University of Florida, Gainesville, April, 2006.
17. "Contemporary World-View in a Global Multimedia Society." NETMELT Conference, Eisenstadt, Austria, April 19, 2002.
18. "Biocentric World-View in Contemporary Society." Intern. Week, Baden, Austria, March 2002.
19. "About Mass-Media Interactive Ethics." Paper presented at the 2nd Conference "Catholics and the Public Life," University San Pablo CEU, Madrid, October 2001.
20. "International Relations in Europe at the University Level." Invited lecturer, University of Virginia's College at Wise, Wise, Virginia, USA, September 2001.
21. "The Lutheran and the Catholic Church Joint Declaration on the Doctrine of Justification." III Seminar about Third Cultures (Jewish, Islam and Christian), Seville, April, 2001.
22. "The Anthropological Problem of De-secularization." 8th European Conference on Science and Theology, Reykjavik, Island, 1998.
23. "The Religious and the Pseudo-religious in the Culture of Mass-media: Phenomenological Key for the Interpretation. Analysis of Madonna's 'Like a Prayer'." Conference on Religion and the Contemporary Culture, University College 'Cardenal Spinola,' Seville, April 1996.
24. "Ecological Cosmvision in Contemporary Scandinavia: A Religion for the Coming Millennium." Conference on Religion and the Contemporary Culture, University College 'Cardenal Spinola,' Sevilla, April 1996.
25. "Worldview of the Scandinavian Societies." 6th European Conference on Science and Theology, Cracow, Poland, March 1996.
26. "Some observations on the Subject of Religion in the Catholic Colleges for Teacher Training." Conference of Catholic Colleges for Teacher Training in Ubeda, Spain, September 1995.
27. "Sociopolitical Situation of the Church in Poland, a historical perspective." Teachers' College 'Cardenal Spinola', Sevilla, Spain, Spring 1993.
28. "The Social and Religious Situation in the Post-Communist Countries (Hungary, Russia, Poland, Czechoslovakia)." The Oratory of San Felipe Neri, Alcalá de Henares, Madrid, Spain, Fall 1991.
29. "Artistic commentary to the First Story of Creation, (Genesis 1,1 – 2,4a)." 'Complutense' High School, Alcalá de Henares, Madrid, Spain, Spring 1990.

## AWARDS

- The Harrison Award for Outstanding Service, University of Virginia at Wise (2011, 2015).
- Committed to Diversity Award, University of Virginia at Wise (2013)

## **PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS**

- Member of AIEA: Association of International Education Administrators: elected for the Leadership Development Committee, 2019-20 term.
- Board member of the Virginia International Educators.
- Member of the NAFSA: Association of International Educators.
- Member of URMIA: University Risk Management and Insurance Association.
- Member of the Society for Scientific Study of Religion.
- Member of The Institute on Religion in an Age of Science.
- Founding member of the Hispanic Society of Anthropological Philosophy.

**LANGUAGES:** Fluent in English, Spanish, and Polish. Proficient reading in Swedish, Italian, and Latin.