

Virginia M. Ryan, Ph.D.
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Curriculum Vitae

Education

- Ph.D.**, Theology, Boston College, 1998
Major, Theological Ethics
Minor, Bible (New Testament)
Dissertation Title: *Euthanasia: A Social Justice Perspective*
Dissertation Fellowship Award, summer, 1996
Dissertation Committee: Lisa Sowle Cahill (director), David Hollenbach, S.J.,
Stephen J. Pope
- M.A.**, Special Education, Assumption College, 1989
- M.Div.**, Andover Newton Theological School, *cum laude*, 1977
Russell Tuck Award for Biblical Studies, rank 2/62
- B.A.**, Boston College, 1974, Theology, *summa cum laude*

Teaching Experience

- Lecturer**, Montserrat Program, College of the Holy Cross, 2018 to present
- Visiting Instructor**, Montserrat Program, College of the Holy Cross, 2013-2018
- Visiting Associate Professor**, Department of Religious Studies, College of the Holy Cross, 2012-13
Courses: Contemporary Christian Morality, HIV/AIDS and Ethics, Theological Perspectives on Medical Ethics, Ethics of Care
- Associate Professor**, Department of Religious Studies, Rivier College, 1999-2012
Tenured: 2007
Courses: Sacraments, Bioethics, Philosophy and Theology of Care, Ecothinking (Honors Seminar), Nursing Ethics, Ethics for Health Sciences, Introduction to the Bible (Biblical Themes), Woman and Spirit, Christian Ethics (On Being Human), Theology of Health Care Ministry, Directed Study (Spring 2003), Directed Study for Honors Thesis (2003-2004), Directed Study for Honors Thesis (2005-2006)
- Adjunct Instructor**, Department of Religious Studies, Rivier College, 1997-1999
Courses: Philosophy and Theology of Care, Bioethics
- Adjunct Instructor**, University of Massachusetts Medical School, 1998-1999
Courses: Physician, Patient and Society
- Adjunct Instructor**, Anna Maria College, 1998-1999
Courses: Biblical Themes, Biomedical Moral Issues
- Adjunct Instructor**, Andover Newton Theological School, fall, 1995 and fall 1996
Courses: Christian Sexual Ethics
- Teaching Assistant** for Stephen J. Pope, Boston College
Courses: Christian Social Ethics

Non-Academic Work Experience

Patient Representative, University of Massachusetts Medical Center, Worcester, MA, 1980-85

Chaplain/Patient Counselor, Medical College of Virginia, Richmond, VA, 1977-1978

Teacher/Youth Minister, St. Gertrude High School, Richmond, VA, 1978-1980

Chaplain Intern, Mount Auburn Hospital, Cambridge, MA, 1976-77

Chaplain Intern, Youville Hospital, Cambridge, MA, 1975-1976

Chaplain Intern, Worcester State Hospital, Worcester, MA, summer of 1975

Assistant Director of Religious Education, Sacred Heart Parish, Newton Centre, MA, 1974-75

Professional Development

- **Member**, Society of Christian Ethics, 1997-2013
- **Member**, College Theology Society, 1997 to present
 - **Board Member**, College Theology Society, 2005-2008
 - **Convener** for the “Theology, Ecology and Natural Science Section of the College Theology Society, 2003-2008

Interactive Participation

- **Referee** for papers, Society of Christian Ethics Annual Meeting, January 2009
- **Facilitator**, Breakfast with an author, Society of Christian Ethics Annual Meeting, January 2009
- **Convener**, Society of Christian Ethics Annual Meeting, January 2009
- **Referee** for papers, Society of Christian Ethics Annual Meeting, January 2008
- **Convener**, Society of Christian Ethics Annual Meeting, January 2008
- **Participant and co-convener** in the College Theology Society Conference “God’s Grandeur: Theology and the Arts: at Regis University, June 2006 *Theology, Ecology and Natural Science Section* 2003-present
- **Co-chair**, “The Tradition of Catholic Higher Education in the Northeast,” Heritage Symposium, Rivier College, March 2004
- **Chair**, “Compassionate Care in the 21st Century: Integrating Spirituality into Health Care,” Power of One Conference, Rivier College, March 2003

Scholarship

Publications

- “Theological Bioethics and Bridge Building” in *Reimagining the Moral Life*, eds. Ki Joo Choi, Sarah M. Moses, Andrea Vicini, SJ, Orbis Books.
- NEFDC Spring 2018 Conference presentation and publication, “I Will Forever be Changed’: Encouraging Meaning-Making in Service-Learning,” with Isabelle Jenkins, MDiv, Virginia Ryan, Ph.D., and Michelle Sterk Barrett, Ph.D. (published in NEFDC Exchange, Volume 31, Fall 2018)
- Book review: for *Horizons*, the bi-annual journal of the College Theology Society, on *Health and Human Flourishing: Religion, Medicine, and Moral Anthropology*, edited by Carol R. Taylor and Roberto Dell’Oro. Washington, D.C.: Georgetown University Press, 2006.
- Book review: *Belmont Revisited: Ethical Principles for Research with Human Subjects*. James F. Childress, Eric M Meslin, and Harold T. Shapiro (Eds.). Washington, D.C.: Georgetown University Press, 2005. (to be published in the fall (2006) or spring (2007) issue of the *Journal of the Society of Christian Ethics*)
- “Fifty Years in Catholic Moral Theology: Where Have We Come From? Where Are We Going?” (unpublished), 2004
- “Walk the Talk: Social Justice and the American Catholic Bishops” (unpublished), 2002

- “Oregon’s Health Plan and Assisted Suicide; A Victory for the Poor?” (unpublished), 1998
- “A Personal Story: A Woman and Infertility” *Loccumer Protokolle* 58/98, Vom 23. Bis 25, Oktober 1998, 36-41.
- “Vanaf de Grens: Een Roep om Bevrijding” (“From the Boundary: A Call to Let Go”). *Vox Theologica* 3(1976) 165-71 (with Maureen Young).

Current work in progress

- *Pursuing Health*, with Mary Doyle Roche

Presentations

- “Meaning-Making and Engagement through Service Learning” with Isabelle Jenkins and Michelle Sterk Barrett, New England Faculty Development Conference (NEFDC), June 8, 2018
- “Drop Your Assumptions at the Door: Educating for Justice in the First-Year Classroom,” group panel and presentations at the Justice in Jesuit Higher Education Conference in Seattle, WA in August 2017.
- “Searching for a Spiritual Center in the Immigration Debate,” a presentation for the Immigration Teach-In, sponsored by the Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, February 17, 2017.
- Panel and presentation with Laura Hibbler on “Successful Faculty/Librarian Collaborations,” NERCOMP (Northeast Regional Computing Program) Professional Development Program, February 10, 2014 at the College of the Holy Cross
- “Looking at the Economic Crisis through the Lens of Faith” for the Diocese of Worcester Pastoral Council (open to the public), June, October 2009, March 2010
- “Looking at the Economic Crisis through the Lens of Faith” for GIFT (Growing In Faith Together) Lecture sponsored by the Assumption Center in Worcester, MA
- Lenten talk: “The Christian Vocation: Downward Mobility with Christ,” Marie Ann Center, Worcester, MA, March 7, 2009
- 22nd International Conference on The First-Year Experience, poster session on Freshman Honors Seminar “Ecothinking,” June 2008
- “Is it better to be right or good: Ethics at the bedside” at the St. Joseph Hospital Nursing Grand Rounds, November 2008
- Engaging the Time panelist, Rivier College, November 12, 2007. “As Leaven in the World.”
- Rivier College Scholars Convocation speaker, April 2007
- Speaker at the Merrimack College Center for the Study of Jewish-Christian Relations on “Jewish and Christian Perspectives on Sexual and Reproductive Ethics” with Rabbi Dennis Ross, March 2007
- Lenten talk: “Is Not This the Fast That Pleases Me?” Marie Ann Center, Worcester, MA, March 4, 2008
- “Ecothinking and Sustainable Education: A Freshman Honors Course” (with Paul Lizotte), at the College Theology Society 2006 Annual Meeting, June 2, 2006 at Regis University
- “Catholic Social Teaching as a Source of Renewal for a Church at Risk - Or How Can We Remain Hopeful in Dark Times?” to Diocese of Manchester Voice of the Faithful, March 23, 2006
- “Hell and Hope in the Palm of My Hand” for the “Faith Lift” Series sponsored by Campus Ministry, March 1, 2006
- “The Artist and the Bible” for the Rivier Final Arts Society, November 13, 2005
- “The Tradition of Catholic Social Teaching as a Source of Renewal for a Church at Risk” for the Worcester Diocese Priest’s Group (and laity), November 5, 2005

- “Social Justice and the Embryonic Stem Cell Research Debate” for the Paulist Center Adult Education Center, November 1, 2005
- “Ecothinking and Sustainable Education: A Freshman Honors Course” (with Paul Lizotte), at “Faith, Ethics and Environment: The Response of a Catholic University” at University of Notre Dame, November 8, 2004.
- “Fifty Years in Catholic Moral Theology: Where Have We Come From? Where Are We Going” at the College Theology Society 2004 Annual Meeting, May 28, 2004 at Catholic University of America
- “Justice and the Church; Justice in the Church,” at *Vatican II: Back to the Future*, Power of One Fall Series, Rivier College, October 25, 2003
- “The Marys of the New Testament” to Women’s Bible Study Group, Worcester, MA, May, 2003
- “The Role of Ethics in Health Care,” Notre Dame Long Term Care Center Breakfast for area healthcare professionals, March 2003
- “Spirituality and Sexuality,” Religious Education and Pastoral Studies, Sacred Heart University full day workshop for spiritual directors,” Vero Beach, FL and Villa Maria, PA, February and June, 2003
- “Pro-Life Language and End of Life Care in the Catholic Tradition,” RISE, Rivier College, January, 2003
- “Complementary/Alternative Medicine,” Ethics Committee, Notre Dame Long Term Care Center, November, 2003
- “Affirming Catechetical Leadership,” Religious Education Directors, Worcester Diocese, November 13, 2003
- “Pro-Life Language and End of Life Care in the Catholic Tradition,” Women’s Studies Brown Bag Luncheon, Rivier College, November, 2002
- “The Catholic Church, Sexual Abuse, and Justice” a presentation with James Post and David O’Brien and a panel discussion for the Peace and Social Justice Power of One Series, Rivier College, October, 2002
- “Tradition, Narrative and Practices,” Rivier Faculty panel presentation on the Faculty Summer Seminar, 2001
- “Women, Health Care, and the Common Good,” Hunt Assisted Living Community, November, 2000
- “Enlarging the Site of Our Tent: Inclusiveness, Human Flourishing and the Common Good,” Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur *Festival of Learning*, Stonehill College, (keynote), July, 2000
- “Ethics and Ministry,” Sisters of Charity of Nazareth Associates, Nazareth, KY, (keynote), June 10-12, 1999
- “A Woman’s Infertility,” Evangelische Akademie International Conference on “New Technologies and Methods of Assisted Reproduction from an Intercultural Perspective, Loccum, Germany, October, 1998
- “Common Ground on Life Issues,” Diocese of Worcester Ministry Conference, Worcester, MA, October, 1995
- “Deciding Right from Wrong,” Diocese of Worcester Religious Education Congress, Worcester, MA, September, 1993
- “Women and Ministry,” *Partnership in Ministry* Retreat, Diocese of Worcester, Office of Continuing Education and Spiritual Enrichment of the Clergy, January 23-3, 1992

Service to the Community

Speaker on “The Economy and Spirituality” for the Diocese of Worcester Pastoral Council open meeting, June 22, 2009

Member, Board of Directors of the Notre Dame Health Care Center, Inc. (Long Term Care Facility

and Assisted Living Facility) 2000-2009, 2012-2016

Member, Ethics Committee of the Notre Dame Health Care Center, Inc. (Long Term Care Facility and Assisted Living Facility) 2001-2016

(Contributed to policy on non-adherence for Notre Dame Health Care Center, 2004-2005)

(Member of the committee to draft the revised mission statement, 2005)