

GRADUATE THEOLOGICAL UNION ARCHIVES
INSTITUTIONAL RECORDS
Records Inventory

1. Accession Number: GTU 92-1-1
2. Shelf Location: 1/A/5-6, 1/A/1
3. Record Group: 7, Subgroup B
4. Volume: 10 boxes; 7 linear feet
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**TITLE: CENTERS AND PROGRAMS.
OFFICE FOR PROGRAMS IN COMPARATIVE RELIGION,
1976 – 1991.**

INTRODUCTION:

The Collection consists of eight Series: 1) National Endowment for the Humanities Grant 1, 1976 – 1979; 2) National Endowment for the Humanities Grant 2, Berkeley/Harvard Cooperative Program in Comparative Religion: Social Values in a Comparative Perspective 1979 – 1982; 3) National Endowment for the Humanities Grant 3, Berkeley/Chicago/Harvard Summer Institutes. The Study of Religion in the Liberal Arts: Towards a Global Perspective, 1985 – 1988; 4) Summer Institute Participants, 1985-87; 5) Office for Programs in Comparative Religion Administration Files, 1985 – 1991; 6) Office for Programs in Comparative Religion Publications; 7) Videotapes; and 8) Audiotapes.

The Collection was transferred as a whole from the OPCR Office to the GTU Archives by the Archivist in 1992. The arrangement maintains the original Office arrangement.

AGENCY HISTORY:

What became the Office for Programs in Comparative Religion at the Graduate Theological Union began in 1976 through a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. The grant was written and headed by Mark Juergensmeyer, GTU Professor of Ethics and Phenomenology of Religions. This was a development grant, 1976-79, for the Graduate Program in the History and Phenomenology of Religions at the GTU which became known as Area VIII.

The goal was to develop a curriculum which emphasized the phenomenological approach to the study of religious experience. By involving both theological and non-theological students and faculty at the GTU and University of California, Berkeley, it was hoped that this new approach developed at the GTU would make a unique contribution to the concept of the religious studies field nationwide.

With Area VIII firmly established at the GTU, Dr. Juergensmeyer sought in the second NEH grant, 1979-82, to expand the field and work cooperatively with Harvard University, particularly John S. Hawley at the Center for the Study of World Religions. This grant, the Berkeley/Harvard Cooperative Program in Comparative Religion: Social Values in a Comparative Perspective focused on established scholars at the GTU, Harvard, and other invited institutions. They met periodically in conferences and through working groups to study paradigms in descriptive ethics, sacred law as the basis for morality, sacred persons as moral guides, and the possibility of a global ethic through the application of shared values.

The third NEH grant, the Berkeley/Chicago/Harvard Summer Institutes for the Study of Religion in the Liberal Arts: Towards a Global Perspective, 1985 – 1988, expanded again on teaching religious studies. These Institutes, alternately held in the three areas, brought entry-level religious studies instructors and professors together with established scholars to explore, discuss, and network on the field, teaching methods, and curricula. Wilfred Cantwell Smith, Frank Reynolds, Huston Smith, Ninian Smart, Robert Bellah, and Wendy Doniger O'Flaherty all participated in one or more of the various grant conferences and programs.

It was in 1985 that the Office for Programs in Comparative Religion was established as a coordinating office within the administrative structure of the GTU to support research and teaching programs in the comparative and intercultural study of world religions. OPCR promoted programs dedicated to the study of religious pluralism. These included developing comparative studies within seminary programs, providing a liaison between and among faculties at the GTU, the University of California, Berkeley and neighboring institutions, and sponsoring conferences, forums, symposia, and lectures. First Mark Juergensmeyer then John Hilary Martin served as Directors of OPCR. Clare Fischer served as Acting Director and on the Executive Committee. The Luce Foundation also contributed grant monies toward the programs and operation of OPCR.

Throughout the years of the grants, there was a strong program of publishing materials related to the focused subjects. The Berkeley Religious Studies Series published four books: *The Critical Study of Sacred Texts*, *The Sants: Studies in a Devotional Tradition of India*, *The Divine Consort: Radha and the Goddesses of India*, and *Sikh Studies: Comparative Perspectives on a Changing Tradition*. Douglas Mansanger, who served as assistant in several of the grant periods, edited *A Bibliographic Guide to the Comparative Study of Ethics*. Among the other publications were Sourcebooks for the Summer Institutes and teaching religious studies, and books of collected essays on relevant subjects.

By 1991, the grants were completed. Without other funding resources, OPCR ceased operation.

SUBJECT HEADINGS:

Religions – Comparative studies
Ethics – Comparative studies
Religions – Congresses
Ethics – Congresses
Religions – Study and teaching – United States
Ethics – Study and teaching – United States

ADD AUTHORS:

Juergensmeyer, Mark
Hawley, John Stratton, 1941-
Smith, Wilfred Cantwell, 1916-
Reynolds, Frank, 1930-
Martin, John Hilary, 1929-
Smith, Huston
Smart, Ninian, 1927-
Bellah, Robert Neelly, 1927-
Mansanger, Douglas
Fischer, Clare Benedicks
O’Flaherty, Wendy (In the GTU Library Grace catalog, she is listed as Doniger, Wendy)

SERIES DESCRIPTION:

Box 1 1 ft., 1/A/5

Series 1: NEH Grant 1, Development of the Graduate Program in the History and Phenomenology of Religions at the GTU, 1976 – 1979

This became established as the Graduate Theological Union study Area VIII. The goal was to develop a curriculum which emphasized the phenomenological approach to the study of religious experience.

File Folder 1, History and Phenomenology of Religions, GTU Area VIII, 1976

2, Project Committee and Correspondence, 1977-80

3, Conferences and Events, 1976-78

4, Young Scholars’ Conference, 5/1977

5, Reports, 1976-77

6, Notes and Correspondence, Mark Juergensmeyer, 1976-78

7, Budget, Reports, Correspondence, 1976-79

- 8, Possible Seminar – Comparative Ethics, ca. 1977-78
- 9, Evaluation, 1978
- 10-14, Final Report and Appendices, 1976-79

Series 2: NEH Grant 2, Berkeley/Harvard Cooperative Program in Comparative Religion: Social Values in a Comparative Perspective 1979 – 1982

This grant focused on established scholars at the GTU, Harvard, and other invited institutions. They met periodically in conferences and through working groups. (See also Series 8: Audiotapes for some recorded conference material during the grant.)

- 15, Berkeley/Harvard Cooperative Program in Comparative Religion: Social Values in a Comparative Perspective, 1979-82, NEH Grant Application and Report
- 16, Luce Foundation Application, Grant, and Reports, 1979-82
- 17, Reports, 1980-82
- 18, Budget, 1980-83
- 19, Requests for extensions and matching funds, Luce Fnd., 1980-83
- 20, B/H 1983 article and information flyer, 1979-84
- 21, B/H Correspondence, 1979-84
- 22, Budget, Reports, Correspondence, 1978-81
- 23, Berkeley/Harvard June Conference, 1980
- 24, B/H Values in Comparative Perspective Conferences 1980
- 25, B/H Ethics Database Project: Information on Computers, 1981
- 26, B/H Conferences 1981
- 27, Religious Sanctions for Terrorism, 4/1981, Columbia
- 28, Seminar Series on Comparative Ethics, 1-2/1981
- 29, Berkeley/Harvard June Conference 1981, Moral Values in Comparative Perspective – Tape transcripts
- 30, Conference papers, 1981
- 31-32, B/H Conferences and Events, 1982
- 33, Middle East Project on Modernization and Religious Values, meeting 10/1982. Includes photographs.
- 34, B/H Seminar Series, Moral Authority in Comparative Perspective, 1982
- 35, B/H Planning Meeting, 10/8/1982
- 36, Budget and Correspondence, 1982-83
- 37, B/H Conferences and Events, 1983

Box 2 1 ft., 1/A/5

- File Folder 1, Global Ethics Seminar (GTU class), 1983, Student papers 2-3, Berkeley/Harvard Final Conference, Values in Comparative Perspective, 6/1984. Includes Conference papers.
- 4, B/H Annotated Bibliography in Comparative Religious Ethics, 1984-85
- 5, Completed Comparative Ethics Bibliography, ca. 1984 (See expanded manuscript in Publications Series: Box, File Folders.)

6-7, Berkeley/Harvard Final Report, 3/1984

Series 3: NEH Grant 3, Berkeley/Chicago/Harvard Summer Institutes. The Study of Religion in the Liberal Arts: Towards a Global Perspective, 1985 – 1988

These Institutes, alternately held in the three areas, brought entry-level religious studies instructors and professors together with established scholars to explore, discuss, and network on the field, teaching methods, and curricula. (See also Series 7: Videotapes and Series 8: Audiotapes for some recorded conference material during the grant.)

8-9, Berkeley/Chicago/Harvard Summer Institutes. The Study of Religion in the Liberal Arts: Towards a Global Perspective, Proposal 5/1984

10-11, NEH Award Letters, 1985-88 (4 awards)

12, B/C/H Grant Budget, 1984-85

13, NEH Correspondence, 1986-89

14, B/C/H Summer Institute, 1985

15, Correspondence, 1985

16, B/C/H Mailing List and Participants list, 1985

17, B/C/H June Conference 1985

18, Comparative Studies Group, 6/1985

19, Chicago Group, Liberal Arts discussion, 1985

20, B/C/H November planning meeting, 1985

21, Summer Institute 1985: College Religious Studies Course Syllabi

22, General Courses in Religion Team, 1985

23-25, B/C/H End of Year Report 1985

Box 3 1 ft., 1/A/5

File Folder 1, B/C/H Chicago Institute, Summer 1986. Religious Studies and Liberal Education: Opportunities and New Directions

2, Sourcebook, 1986

3, Sourcebook correspondence, 1986

4, 1986 Institute Participants' evaluations

5-7, End of Year Report 1986

8, Berkeley Summer Institute 1987, A Teacher's Workshop on the Introductory Course in Religious Studies

9, Summer Institute 1987, Photos: Frank Reynolds, Wilfred Cantwell Smith, Robert Bellah, Huston Smith, Mark Juergensmeyer, Group shot of participants.

10, Summer Institute 1987, Summaries of presentations and discussions

11, Summer Institute 1987, Daily Summary

12, Summer Institute 1987 materials

13, Sourcebook 1987

14, Working Papers, Chicago Institute, Religious Studies and Liberal Education, 1987

15, Summer Institute 1987, Participants' evaluations

16-18, Final Report 1985-87, Vols. 1-3

- 19, 1988 Harvard Summer Institute. Teaching Comparative Courses
- 20, 1988 Institute, Budget matters
- 21, Sourcebook 1988
- 22-23, Proposal for B/C/H Summer Institutes, Phase 2, 1988-89
- 24, Proposal, Developing an Image Bank, 1988-90

Box 4 1 ft., 1/A/6

- File Folder 1, Image Bank, 1988-89
- 2, Image Bank correspondence (sampled from 3 inches of correspondence), 1989
- 3, 1989 Summer Workshop, Program and Participants list
- 4, Wilfred Cantwell Smith, Address at B/C/H Conference Berkeley, CA, Spring 1989, "How I would teach an into course in religion"
- 5, Sourcebook 1989
- 6, B/C/H Summer Institutes: Global Approach to the Study of Religion, Resource Center Final Report, 1988-89
- 7, 1989 Summer Workshop (Supplement to Final Report)
- 8, Final Report 1990 (publishing three books)
- 9, Participants lists, 1986-89

Series 4: Summer Institute Participants, 1985-87

File folders 10 – 57. This Series includes attendees and some presenters for the 1985 and 1987 Institutes. Each has a separate file arranged alphabetically by name.

Series 5: Office for Programs in Comparative Religion Administration Files, 1985 – 1990

The Office for Programs in Comparative Religion was established 1985 as a coordinating office within the administrative structure of the Graduate Theological Union to support research and teaching programs in the comparative and intercultural study of world religions.

- File Folder 58, OPCR Brochures, ca. 1986, ca. 1990
- 59, Comparative Religion at the Graduate Theological Union discussions and proposals, 1987
- 60-63, Correspondence, 1985-90
- 64, Development, 1987-88
- 65, Events, 1987-88
- 66, Grant extension budget through 1990
- 67, History of Berkeley/Chicago/Harvard, OPCE, and NEH Grants, 1987
- 68-69, Lecture Series, 1985-90
- 70, Lunchtime Symposia or Brownbag Lecture series, 1987-91
- 71, Mailing lists, n.d.
- 72, OPCR Activities and Objectives – Discussion of comparative approach to teaching religion, 1987

Box 5 1 ft., 1/A/6

- File Folder 1, OPCR Staff Positions and Responsibilities, 1987
- 2, Proposal for Office of Programs in World Religion at the GTU, 1984
- 3, Proposal for establishing a Berkeley Program in Sikh Studies, 1987
- 4, Speakers – Carol Christ, 1985
- 5, Speakers – Claude Wlech, “Pluralism and Interreligious Dialogue”, 1986
- 6, Staff meetings, 1985-86
- 7-8, “The Tent of Meeting”, PR packet, installation and related programs, 1988
- 9, West/East Friends, 1990
- 10, Witches and Christians in Dialogue, 11/1987

Series 6: Publications

Through all the grants, there was a program of publishing materials related to the focused subjects. The Berkeley Religious Studies Series published four books. Among the other publications were bibliographies, Sourcebooks for the Summer Institutes and teaching religious studies, and books of collected essays on relevant subjects.

11-20, Berkeley Religious Studies Series, 1977-90: Distributers – Lancaster-Miller, Motilal Banarsidass, Asian Humanities Press. Reviews and PR. Orders and inventory. (For individual books, see files under specific titles: The Critical Study of Sacred Texts, The Sants: Studies in a Devotional Tradition of India, The Divine Consort: Radha and the Goddesses of India, and Sikh Studies: Comparative Perspectives on a Changing Tradition.)

21-29, “A Bibliographic Guide to the Comparative Study of Ethics” (Manuscript and computer disks): Table of Contents, Introduction, Hindu, Indo-Tibetan Buddhist, Ancient Chinese, Chinese Buddhist, Taoist, Ancient Greek, Jewish, Christian (Early and Modern), Islamic, Native American, and Modern Western Philosophical Ethics. ca. 1984-85

30, Brochure for 3 volume Berkeley/Chicago/Harvard – “The Study of Religion in the Liberal Arts: Towards a Global Perspective”, 1990

31, The Critical Study of Sacred Texts, Wendy O’Flaherty, ed., 1976-77

32-36, The Divine Consort: Radha and the Goddesses of India.

Correspondence, Copyright, Braun-Brumfield (printers and binders), Brochure, Beacon Press. 1979-89

37, A Handbook for Teaching the Introductory Course in Religious Studies, orders, 1989-90

38-39, Islam and the History of Religions. Correspondence, typesetting, printing, 1980-82

40-44, Newsletters.

OPCR Newsletter, 1985-89

Shaman Drum, 1976-83

45, Phenomena of Religions (Manuscript). Includes contributor correspondence, 1977-79

Box 6 5 in., 1/A/1
File Folder 1, Phenomena of Religions, Correspondence, 1979-81
2, Saints and Their Virtues, 1983-86 (See Manuscript in Box 7.)
3, Sant Conference, 1978
4-6, The Sants: Studies in a Devotional Tradition of India.
Correspondence, Cataloging, Reviews. 1980-89
7, Scholar's Press, correspondence re: 3 volumes of the Sourcebook,
1990-91
8-9, Sikh Studies: Comparative Perspectives on a Changing Tradition,
1977-86
10-14, Teaching the Introductory Course in Religious Studies: A
Sourcebook. Manuscript, Correspondence, Scholar's Press. 1989-90

Box 7 2 in., 1/A/5, Saints and Their Virtues, John S. Hawley, ed.
Manuscript.

Box 8 1 ft., 1/A/6

Series 7: Videotapes

Not all conferences or events were taped. Arranged
chronologically.

Tapes 1-6, 1985 Summer Institute. Includes presentations by Ninian
Smart and Joke Night.

Tapes 7-16, 1987 Summer Institute. Includes presentations by Huston
Smith, Frank Reynolds, Robert Bellah, and Wilfred Cantwell Smith.

Tapes 17-24, Second Berkeley Sikh Studies Conference, 2/1987

Tapes 25-28, 1989 Summer Institute. Includes Howard Miller, Royce
Clark, Martin (or Michael?) Schwartz, ? Green, ? Graham, and ? Zaleski.

Tapes 29-32, Comparative Fundamentalism Conference, Berkeley,
3/1988. Includes discussions on Jewish, Islamic, Sikh, and Christian
issues.

Box 9 Cassette Box, 1/A/5

Series 8: Audiotapes

Not all conferences or events were taped. Arranged
chronologically.

Tapes 1-4, Work Conference, 2/16/1981

Tapes 5-17, Berkeley/Harvard Cooperative Program in Comparative Religion: Social Values in a Comparative Perspective Conference, 6/1981

Tapes 18-28, Conference ca. 1983-84?

There is no Tape 29.

Tapes 30-37, Berkeley/Chicago/Harvard Summer Institutes. The Study of Religion in the Liberal Arts: Towards a Global Perspective, 6/1985

Box 10 Cassette Box, 1/A/1

Tapes 38-40, Continued – Berkeley/Chicago/Harvard Summer Institutes. The Study of Religion in the Liberal Arts: Towards a Global Perspective, 6/1985

Tapes 41-42, First Berkeley Sikh Studies Conference, ca. 1985?

Tape 43, Young Scholar's Conference, 1977

Tapes 44-47, Religious Terrorism: Christianity in Latin America, Bengali Nationalism, and Islam (The Husain Paradigm), 1981

Tape 48, Religious Roles, Lecture 1 – The Priest, n.d.

Tape 49, Office Phone Messages, n.d.

Separation Note:

Videotape: "Quest for Peace", John Whiteley, Donald McHenry. 29 minutes. Transferred to the GTU Library Rare materials collection.