

CURRICULUM VITAE

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

NAME: Donald L. Boisvert

ADDRESS: Department of Religion, Concordia University
1455 de Maisonneuve Blvd. West, Montréal, QC H3G 1M8

TELEPHONE: 514.848.2424, ext. 4153

E-MAIL: Donald.Boisvert@concordia.ca

CITIZENSHIP: Canadian

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY:

2003-present	Senior Lecturer, Department of Religion, Concordia University
1996-2003	Dean of Students, Concordia University
1995-1996	Acting Director, Health Services, Concordia University
1991-1996	Associate Vice-Rector, Services (Student Life), Concordia University
1990-1991	Acting Director, Guidance Services, Concordia University
1985-1990	(Executive) Assistant to the Rector, Concordia University
1980-1985	Administrative Assistant to the Vice-Rector, Academic, Concordia University
1979-1980	Programme Development Officer, Dean of Students' Office, Loyola Campus, Concordia University
1976-1978	Communications Assistant, Office of the Leader of the Opposition, Canadian House of Commons

ACADEMIC BACKGROUND:

1990	Ph.D., Religious Studies, University of Ottawa
------	--

- 1978-1979 Doctoral Course Work, Department of Religious Studies,
McMaster University
- 1979 M.A., History & Philosophy of Religion, Concordia University
- 1975 B.A. (magna cum laude), Interdisciplinary Studies, Concordia
University

HONOURS AND AWARDS:

- 2010 Teaching Excellence Award, Concordia University Alumni
Association
- 2005 Finalist, Lambda Literary Awards, Spirituality/Religion Category,
for the book Sanctity and Male Desire: A Gay Reading of Saints
- 1975 Loyola Campus Medal; Graduating Class Valedictorian

LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY:

English and French

RESEARCH

PUBLICATIONS (PEER-REVIEWED):

SINGLE-AUTHORED BOOKS:

Sanctity and Male Desire: A Gay Reading of Saints. Cleveland: The Pilgrim Press, 2004,
224.

Out on Holy Ground: Meditations on Gay Men's Spirituality. Cleveland: The Pilgrim
Press, 2000, 148.

CO-EDITED BOOK:

With Robert E. Goss, Gay Catholic Priests and Clerical Sexual Misconduct: Breaking the
Silence. Binghamton: The Haworth Press, 2005, 272.

BOOK CHAPTERS:

“Échos d’une Révolution moins que tranquille: identité et catholicisme québécois,” in
Modernité et religion au Québec: où en sommes-nous? Québec: Les Presses de
l’Université Laval, 2010, 55-66.

“Sanctity and Male Desire: Sebastian and Tarcisus,” in Men and Masculinities in

Christianity and Judaism: A Critical Reader. Björn Krondorfer, ed. London: SCM Press, 2009, 408-418. (This is a reprint, with editorial comments, of a chapter from my book, Sanctity and Male Desire: A Gay Reading of Saints.)

“Homosexuality and Spirituality,” in Homosexuality and Religion: An Encyclopedia. Jeffrey S. Siker, ed. Westport: Greenwood Press, 2007, 32-44.

“Donald L. Boisvert (essay date June 2003),” in Contemporary Literary Criticism (Volume 25). Farmington Hills: Thomson, Gale, 2007, 343-350. (This is a reprint of my article from Literature and Theology.)

“Desiring St. Sebastian,” in Charmed Lives: Gay Spirit in Storytelling. Toby Johnson and Steve Berman, eds. Maple Shade: Lethe Press, 2006, 242-246.

“The Spirit Within: Gay Male Culture as a Spiritual Venue,” in Gay Religion. Edward R. Gray and Scott Thuma, eds. Walnut Creek: AltaMira Press, 2005, 351-366.

“Celibate Men, Ambivalent Saints, and Games of Desire,” in Gay Catholic Priests and Clerical Sexual Misconduct: Breaking the Silence. Donald L. Boisvert and Robert E. Goss, eds. Binghamton: The Haworth Press, 2005, 19-32.

JOURNAL ARTICLES:

“‘I Seek My Satisfaction in You’: The Sexual Discourses of Eugène Prévost, Religious Founder,” in Studies in Religion/Sciences religieuses. Wilfrid Laurier University Press: vol. 37 (3-4), 2008, 427-445.

“Talking Dirty about the Saints: Storytelling and the Politics of Desire,” in Theology and Sexuality. Sheffield Academic Press: vol. 12 (2), 2006, 165-180.

“Heavenly Signs from Below: A Religious Reading of Michel Tremblay’s Chroniques du Plateau Mont-Royal” in Literature and Theology. Oxford University Press: vol. 17 (2), June 2003, 141-155.

“Men, Muscles and Zombies: A Partial Response to Michelangelo Signorile” in Theology and Sexuality. Sheffield Academic Press: no. 16, March 2002, 9-20.

“Queering the Sacred: Discourses of Gay Male Spiritual Writing” in Theology and Sexuality. Sheffield Academic Press: no. 10, March 1999, 54-70.

JOURNAL ARTICLE FORTHCOMING:

“Piety, Purity and Pain: Gérard Raymond and the Ideal of French Canadian Catholic Manhood,” Historical Studies, Canadian Catholic Historical Association, 2010.

BOOK REVIEWS:

Nation of Bastards: Essays on the End of Marriage (D. Farrow) in Studies in Religion/Sciences religieuses. Wilfrid Laurier University Press, vol. 38, no. 1, 2009, 166-167.

Be Not Deceived: The Sacred and Sexual Struggles of Gay and Ex-gay Christian Men (M. Wolkoimir) in Sociology of Religion. Association for the Sociology of Religion, Vol. 69, no. 1, spring 2008, 109-110.

Before Homosexuality in the Arab-Islamic World, 1500-1800 (K. El-Rouayheb) in The Gay and Lesbian Review Worldwide. Boston, vol. XIII, no.2, March-April 2006, 43.

The Man Jesus Loved (T.W. Jennings) and Gay Perspective (T. Johnson) in The Gay and Lesbian Review Worldwide. Boston, vol. X, no. 6, November-December 2003, 45.

The Wages of Sin: Sex and Disease, Past and Present (P. Lewis Allen) in Journal of Religion and Culture. Montreal: Concordia University, Department of Religion, vol. 15, 2002/03, 141-142.

FILM REVIEWS:

“Fish Can’t Fly,” in Studies in Religion/Sciences religieuses. Wilfrid Laurier University Press: vol. 37 (3-4), 2008, 564-565.

“For the Bible Tells Me So,” in Studies in Religion/Sciences religieuses. Wilfrid Laurier University Press: vol. 37 (2), 2008, 380-381.

PUBLICATIONS (NON-PEER-REVIEWED):

“The Flirtatious Sacred: Reflections on Religion, Saints and Desire” in REtoday. Birmingham, UK: Christian Education Publications, summer 2009, vol. 26, no. 3, 38-39.

“Gay Celluloid Markings” in White Crane. Brooklyn: White Crane Institute, spring 2007, number 72, 25-26.

“A School for Desire” in White Crane. Brooklyn: White Crane Institute, winter 2002, number 55, 10-11.

“Wherefore Gay Spirituality?” in White Crane. Brooklyn: White Crane Institute, fall 2002, number 54, 11-13.

“Of Pleasure and Gay Holiness” in White Crane. Brooklyn: White Crane Institute, spring 2002, number 52, 12-13.

PRE-PUBLICATION BOOK REVIEWS AND JACKET ENDORSEMENTS:

Contemporary Voices of Canadian Religion, Oxford University Press, forthcoming.

The Religions of Canadians, Oxford University Press, forthcoming.

Robert E. Goss and Dennis Klass, Dead but Not Lost: Grief Narratives in Religious Traditions. Walnut Creek: AltaMira Press, 2005.

Ronald E. Long, Men, Homosexuality, and the Gods: An Exploration into the Religious Significance of Male Homosexuality in World Perspective. New York: Harrington Park Press, 2004.

WORK IN PROGRESS:

Co-editor (with Jay Emerson Johnson), two-volume set entitled Queer Religion. Praeger Publishers, expected publication in 2011-2012.

Begun work on a book manuscript from my SSHRC-funded research. Working title: Teenage Saints, Tamed Bodies: The Making of the Catholic Adolescent, 1900-1960.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS:

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| November 2009 | <p>“Transcribing the Pink Triangle: A James Alison and René Girard Perspective on the Contemporary Assault on Gay Men,” American Academy of Religion, Montréal, Québec</p> <p>Convener and Chair, Panel on the History of Religion in Québec, American Academy of Religion, Montréal, Québec</p> |
| May 2009 | <p>“Gérard Raymond: The Making of a French Canadian Adolescent Saint,” Canadian Catholic Historical Association, Ottawa, Ontario</p> |
| November 2008 | <p>Convener and presenter, panel on Björn Krondorfer’s “Who’s Afraid of Gay Theology?” American Academy of Religion, Chicago, Illinois</p> |
| September 2008 | <p>“Le jubilé d’or d’une paroisse sherbrookoise: regards sur l’album souvenir,” Société canadienne d’histoire de l’Église catholique, Québec, Québec</p> |
| April 2008 | <p>“Échos d’une révolution moins que tranquille: réflexions sur le catholicisme culturel québécois,” Colloque</p> |

interdisciplinaire « Modernité et religion au Québec »,
Université Laval, Québec, Québec

- May 2007 “Teaching Purity: Catholic Saints as Sexual Pedagogues,”
paper and panel with research assistants P. Gareau and S.
Turriff, Canadian Society for the Study of Religion,
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan
- November 2006 “Mystical Erotica: Gay Living as Spiritual/Religious
Practice,” panel response, American Academy of Religion,
Washington, D.C.
- September 2006 “The Last Acceptable Hatred: The World’s Religions and
Same-Sex Relations,” Religion after 9/11 International
Conference, Montréal, Québec
- “Hagiographic Pleasures: Understanding Catholic
Adolescent Female Saints,” Religion after 9/11
International Conference, Montréal, Québec
- May 2005 “Storytelling, Sensual Language and the Politics of Desire:
A Personal Tale,” Eastern International Regional Meeting,
American Academy of Religion, Montréal, Québec
- May 2004 “‘I Want to Take My Pleasure in You’: The Sexual
Discourses of Eugène Prévost, Religious Founder,”
Canadian Society for the Study of Religion, Winnipeg,
Manitoba
- May 2003 “The Montréal Temple of Priapus: Phallus Worship as
Spiritual Discipline,” Canadian Lesbian and Gay Studies
Association, Halifax, Nova Scotia
- November 2001 “Of Celibate Men, Ambivalent Saints, and Games of
Desire,” American Academy of Religion, Denver, Colorado
- May 2001 “Wherefore Gay Spirituality, or How Queer Can the Sacred
Be?” Canadian Lesbian and Gay Studies Association,
Québec City, Québec
- “A Religious Reading of Michel Tremblay’s Chroniques du
Plateau Mont-Royal,” Canadian Society for the Study of
Religion, Québec City, Québec

- November 2000 “Flexing Michelangelo’s Muscles, or How We All Became Cultic Zombies,” American Academy of Religion, Nashville, Tennessee
- November 1999 “Performing the Holy: Transgression and Religion in the Art of Ron Athey,” American Academy of Religion, Boston, Massachusetts
- December 1998 “St. John the Baptist as Symbol of French Canadian Nationalism,” colloquium on “The Catholic Church and Social Change in Québec, 1840-1960,” Département d’histoire, Université du Québec à Montréal
- November 1998 “Pre-Pubescent Boys and Papier Mâché Dolls: John the Baptist and the Iconography of French Canada,” Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, Montréal, Québec
- November 1997 “Queering the Sacred: A Typology of Gay Spirituality,” American Academy of Religion, San Francisco, California
- August 1997 “Ecology and Gay Spirituality: The Sexual Quest for the New Earth,” International Conference on New Religious Movements, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
- August 1996 “Gay Spirituality as a New Religious Movement: Old Wine in New Bottles?” International Conference on New Religious Movements, Montréal, Québec
- April 1996 “The Voice of One Crying Tolerance: The Figure of John the Baptist in Some Recent June 24th Homilies in Montréal,” Eastern International Regional Meeting, American Academy of Religion, Syracuse, New York
- June 1995 “Ecstasy and Nationalism: Religious Dimensions of Some Recent Saint-Jean-Baptiste Celebrations in Montréal,” Canadian Society for the Study of Religion, Montréal, Québec

FUNDING:

- 2006-2009 Standard Research Grant, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada
- “Virgins, Vital Fluids and the Vatican: Catholic Sainthood and the Forging of Adolescent Sexuality”

Year 1: \$23,418

Year 2: \$27,161

Year 3: \$24,391

2007-present	Collaborator, MCRI Religion & Diversity Project, University of Ottawa
2007	Collaborator, Faculty of Arts & Science General Research Fund, Concordia Research Centre on Sexuality, Sex Studies Conference and FQRSC Pole Grant Application
2007	'Chercheur collaborateur,' Groupe de recherche Irlande- Québec, Concordia University

TEACHING

COURSES TAUGHT:

2009-2010	RELI 379E Christian Mystics RELI 380 Religion and Sexuality RELI 637L Medieval Christianity RELI 610 Methodological Problems in the Study of Religion
2008-2009	RELI 223 Introduction to Christianity RELI 367 Ritual, Ceremony and Celebration RELI 370 Topics in Comparative Religion: Pilgrimage RELI 380 Religion and Sexuality RELI 610 Methodological Problems in the Study of Religion RELI 890 Joint Doctoral Seminar
2007-2008	RELI 372 The Human Body in Religious Thought and Practice RELI 375 Religion in Canada RELI 375 Religion in Canada (new on-line course) RELI 380 Religion and Sexuality RELI 398U Selected Topics: The History of Satan RELI 641J The Reluctant Goddess: Mary in Christian Traditions
2006-2007	RELI 210 Religion in Practice RELI 320 Catacombs, Crusades, Convents: History of Christianity I RELI 325 Prophets, Rebels and Saints: Medieval Christian Saints

	RELI 380	Religion and Sexuality
	RELI 382	Women and Religion: Christianity
	RELI 890	Joint Doctoral Seminar
2005-2006	RELI 210	Religion in Practice
	RELI 325	Prophets, Rebels and Saints: Pope John Paul II
	RELI 367	Ritual, Ceremony and Celebration
	RELI 372	The Human Body in Religious Thought and Practice
	RELI 378	Death and Dying
	RELI 380	Religion and Sexuality
2004-2005	RELI 320	Catacombs, Crusades, Convents: History of Christianity I
	RELI 375	Religion in Canada
	RELI 378	Death and Dying
	RELI 380	Religion and Sexuality
	RELI 382	Women and Religion: Christianity
	RELI 398L	Selected Topics: Religion and Nationalism in Québec
2003-2004	RELI 216	Encountering World Religions
	RELI 376	Psychology of Religion
	RELI 378	Death and Dying (2)
	RELI 380	Religion and Sexuality
	RELI 398D	Selected Topics: Pilgrimage
1991-2003		Part-time Instructor, Departments of Applied Human Sciences (Leisure Studies), Political Science, Religion, and the Interdisciplinary Minor in Sexuality
		Courses taught: Catholic Social and Political Thought, HIV/AIDS: Cultural, Social and Scientific Aspects of the Pandemic, Religion and Leisure, Religion and Politics

SPECIAL COURSE DESIGN:

RELI 375	Religion in Canada (Religions of Canada), e-concordia on-line course
----------	--

TUTORIALS AND READING COURSES:

2009-2010	Catholicism in Québec (graduate)
	Christianity and Same-Sex Relations (graduate)
	Mexican Catholicism (graduate)

2008-2009	Sociology of Sainthood (graduate)
2007-2008	Sexuality and Hagiography (graduate)
2006-2007	Western Masculinities and Spirituality Selected Topics: Christian Martyrdom in Africa
2005-2006	Theoretical Problems in Religion and Culture (graduate) Independent Study: The Cult of Mary in Christianity Topics in Comparative Religion and Ethics (graduate)
2004-2005	History of Christian Thought (graduate) Christianity and Society in the Ancient and Medieval Periods (graduate)

STUDENT SUPERVISION:

I have supervised a significant number of undergraduate honours theses, M.A. theses and guided research papers, comprehensive examinations, and doctoral dissertations, some of which are ongoing. I have also been a member of several examining committees. The large array of topics includes the following: Christian Missions in China, Same-Sex Marriage in Canada, Women in Mexican Catholicism, The Army of Mary, Witchcraft and Medieval Christianity, Death and Dying, Conversion Narratives in Wicca, Medieval Angelology, Women in North American Spiritualism, Women and Eunuchs in Byzantine Historiography, Québec Catholicism, and Religion and Public Policy in Canada.

SERVICE

INTERNAL:

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIVITIES:

2009-present	Project on Middle Eastern Christian Traditions
2003-present	Undergraduate Advisor, Department of Religion

COMMITTEES:

2008-present	Speaker of the University Senate
2008-2010	Faculty Representative, Concordia Council on Student Life
2008-2009	Chair, Presidential Panel on the Student Experience Moderator, President's Conference on "Self, Sexuality and Desire"

	Chair, Strategic Planning Public Forum
2008-2009	Selection Committee, Director of Counselling and Development
2006-2007	Hiring Committees, Judaism and Early Christianities
2003-present	Religion Undergraduate Curriculum Committee
2002-present	Q2 Sexual Diversity Steering Committee
1998-present	Coordinating Committee, Interdisciplinary Programme in Sexuality
2004-2006	Self-Appraisal Committee, Department of Religion
2004-2005	Advisory Committee on the Restructuring of the Multi-Faith Chaplaincy

In my former positions in senior administration at the University, I oversaw, chaired and participated in many committees and governing bodies, too numerous to list here.

COLLOQUIA AND LECTURES:

“Beyond Hagiographic Pleasure: Catholic Discourses of Youthful Female Sexuality in the Late-20th Century,” Department of Religion Faculty Colloquium, May 2008

“Gérard Raymond: The Making of a French Canadian Teenage Saint,” Department of Religion Faculty Colloquium, April 2007

“Woman Denied? Woman Confirmed?” Lecture and Discussion, Theological Studies Undergraduate Students’ Association, March 2006

“The Flirtatious Sacred: Reflections on Religion and Desire,” invited keynote address for the 11th Annual Graduate Student Interdisciplinary Conference, Department of Religion, February 2006

“The Many Lives of Dominic Savio, Boy-Saint: An Introduction,” Department of Religion Faculty Colloquium, March 2004

“The Childish Icon: John the Baptist and the Imagery of French Canada,” Department of Art History Lecture Series, April 1998

At the invitation of colleagues from the Department of Religion and other academic units, I have given classes on a variety of topics such as: Christianity and human sexuality, gay

spirituality, Medieval Christianity, homosexuality and the bible, women in Christianity, ritual, Christian mysticism, AIDS and spirituality, and homosexuality and the Holocaust.

OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS:

Co-organized the visit of Dr. Robert Orsi (Northwestern University) for a public lecture and departmental colloquium presentation, November 2009

Chair, Doctoral Examining Committees: S. Duguay (2008) and K. Hershorn (2008)

Organized the visit of Dr. Mark Jordan (Emory University) for a public lecture and departmental colloquium presentation, October 2006

Coordinator (with D. Salée, SCPA), “The Sacred Run, the Lotus and the Feather: A Community Ritual,” Peace and Conflict Resolution Academic Series, February 2006

Invocation, Installation of the President, October 2005

EXTERNAL:

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS:

2006-present	Editorial Board, <u>Journal of Men, Masculinities and Spirituality</u> (on-line)
2000-2007	Co-Chair, Gay Men’s Issues in Religion Group, American Academy of Religion My responsibilities included the coordination and preparation of annual meeting paper and panel sessions, chairing sessions and business meetings, and handling an Academy appraisal of the group. I remain a member of the Group’s Steering Committee.

EVALUATION ACTIVITIES:

Member, Pre-selection Committee (Humanities), 2008 and 2009 Doctoral Fellowships, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada

Decanal reviewer, Ph.D. thesis of K. Hamilton, The Graduate College, Union Institute and University, Cincinnati, Ohio, July 2007, Topic: Post-colonialism, Queer Theory and the Uganda Martyrs

INVITED PRESENTATIONS AND LECTURES:

Expert Presenter, “Religion et éducation: les défis de l’avenir,” Comité sur les affaires religieuses du Ministère de l’Éducation, des loisirs et du sport, Gouvernement du Québec, June 2009

Presenter and discussant, film screening of “Paragraph 175,” Holocaust Education Series, Montréal Holocaust Memorial Centre, November 2007

Presenter and discussant, film screening of “Un amour à taire,” Montréal Jewish Public Library, December 2007

Guest Homilist, International AIDS Day Mass, St. John the Evangelist Anglican Church, Montréal, December 2006

Public lecture, “Le triangle rose: les homosexuels et le régime nazi,” Holocaust Education Series, Montréal Holocaust Memorial Centre, November 2006

Master of Ceremonies, Dawson College Memorial Ceremony, St. James United Church, Montréal, September 2006

Public lecture, “Subversive Desire: Homosexuals and the Nazi State,” Holocaust Education Series, Montréal Holocaust Memorial Centre, September 2005

Keynote Speaker, three lectures on “Spirituality and Sexuality,” North American Leadership Conference of the Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches, Long Beach, California, September 2002

On a number of occasions, I have also been invited to provide commentary in the local print and electronic media on such diverse topics as Muslim prayer space, same-sex marriage, prayer in public spaces, pedophilia and the Catholic Church, the Bouchard-Taylor report on reasonable accommodations, the papacy and papal travels, the resurgence of the Catholic Latin mass, the Grey Nuns, the Knights of Columbus, and other aspects of Catholic culture generally.

OTHER PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES:

2009-2010	Chair of Forum, Christ Church Cathedral, Montréal Anglican Bishop’s Committee on the Blessing of Same-Sex Marriages
May 2007	Seminar, “The Holocaust and Christian Churches: Teaching That History Today,” U.S. Holocaust Museum, Washington
2006-2009	Board of Directors, Montréal Holocaust Memorial Centre
2002-2009	Tour Guide, Montréal Holocaust Museum

1999-2005

Board of Governors, Dawson College (vice-chair, 2004-05)