

DAVID L. WHIDDEN III, Ph.D.
Curriculum Vitae

Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady University
5414 Brittany Drive | Baton Rouge, LA 70808
(225) 526-1651 | david.whidden@franu.edu

EDUCATION

Southern Methodist University, Dallas, TX
Graduate Program in Religious Studies
Ph.D. in Systematic Theology, December 2011
Dissertation: “The Role of Light in the Theology of Thomas Aquinas”
Advisor: Bruce D. Marshall

Southern Methodist University, Dallas, TX
Perkins School of Theology
Masters in Theological Studies, 2006
Summa cum Laude

University of Florida, Gainesville, FL
College of Business Administration
Masters of Business Administration

Stetson University, DeLand, FL
Bachelor of Arts in History

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

2023- *Vice President for Mission, Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady University*

Key Responsibilities:

- Embrace and advance the Catholic, Franciscan mission of the University by ensuring that all programs and activities are consistent with the Catholic and Franciscan mission and are implemented so as to achieve its goals.
- Serve as a member of the President’s Cabinet and participate in planning and decision-making for the University.
- Ensure communication regarding University decisions to the various units within the University and among relevant external partners relevant to mission integrity.
- Collaborate closely with members of the Cabinet and other campus leaders on an integrated mission formation strategy that supports the University’s strategic plan.
- Coordinate special projects as assigned by the President and advise the President on issues regarding Mission advancement and integration.

- Lead the development, implementation, and ongoing evaluation of an aggressive and comprehensive mission integration plan.
- Work closely with the President and other campus leaders, as well as with certain community and Church partners, to develop and implement mission-related strategies driven by institutional priorities.
- Provide leadership in fulfilling the University's mission integration goals.
- Establish and pursue relevant funding priorities based on strategic plan commitments and mission priorities.
- Provide leadership in identifying grant opportunities and in facilitating grant development.
- Ensure that programs assess the degree to which mission alignment and strategic objectives of the University are achieved.
- Review University policies and procedures and recommend changes based on mission integration goals.
- Review and/or assist in the revision of recruitment and hiring practices to ensure mission alignment and enhancement.
- Review and/or assist in the revision of marketing, communications, and recruitment materials to ensure distinctly Catholic and Franciscan identity.
- Oversee the management of the Office of Mission budget.
- Provide instruction and insights relevant to Franciscan stewardship and resources management practices.
- Develop budget practices and procedures that allow the Office of Mission to meet its administrative obligations and maintain a balanced budget.
- Engage in an analytical, empirical, data-driven approach to problem-solving and decision-making.
- Facilitate a culture of evidence in mission integration initiatives, programs, and activities.

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

- 2019- *Professor of Theology, Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady University*
 2015-19 *Associate Professor of Theology, Our Lady of the Lake College*
 2011-15 *Assistant Professor of Theology, Our Lady of the Lake College*
 Courses taught: Introduction to Theology (in person and online), History and Theology of St. Francis (online), Old Testament, New Testament, Catholic Social Teaching (online and in person), Science and Christianity (online), Church History, Trinitarian Theology, Sacraments, Philosophy and Theology, Great Books Seminar – Autobiography.
- 2007-10 *Graduate Student in Systematic Theology, Southern Methodist University*
 Courses taught: Systematic Theology I and II (2008-09), Monastic Spirituality (2007-2009), Theology of Thomas Aquinas (Spring 2010, Teaching Assistant)

PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Books

Christ the Light: The Theology of Light and Illumination in Thomas Aquinas. Fortress Press. July 2014.

Hunter, Justus H., T. Adam Van Wart, and David L. Whidden, eds. *Love Become Incarnate: Essays in Honor of Bruce D. Marshall.* Steubenville, Ohio: Emmaus Academic, 2022.

Articles and Book Chapters

“Beyond the Cur Deus Homo: The Marian Shape of Anselm’s Soteriology.” In *Love Become Incarnate: Essays in Honor of Bruce D. Marshall*, 17–33. Steubenville, Ohio: Emmaus Academic, 2022.

“Sin and the Structure of Anselm’s *Cur Deus homo*.” *Scottish Journal of Theology*, volume 75, number 1 (2022): 23-32.

“The *Proslogion*, Gilbert Crispin, and the *Cur Deus homo*: Anselm and the Problems of the Incarnation” in *Anselm of Canterbury: Communities, Contemporaries and Criticism*, eds., Giles Gasper, Margaret Healy-Varley, and George Younge. (Brill, 2021), 56-70.

“The Theology of Play and the Play of Theology in Thomas Aquinas.” *The Thomist*, volume 80, number 2 (2016): 273-84.

“From Bitter to Sweet: Humility and Service at Franciscan Colleges and Universities.” *The AFCU Journal: A Franciscan Perspective on Higher Education*, volume 10, number 1 (2013): 26-36.

“The Alleged Feudalism of Anselm’s *Cur Deus Homo* and the Benedictine Concepts of Obedience, Honor, and Order.” *Nova et Vetera* (English edition), volume 9, number 4 (2011): 1055-87.

Book Reviews

Reading Sacred Scripture with Thomas Aquinas: Hermeneutical Tools, Theological Questions and New Perspectives, by Piotr Roszak, and Jörgen Vijgen, eds. *Nova et Vetera* (English edition), volume 18, number 1 (Winter 2020): 331-335.

Atonement, by Eleanore Stump. *The Thomist*, volume 83, number 3, (July 2019): 471-474.

Aquinas’s Theory of Perception: An Analytic Reconstruction, by Anthony J. Lisska. *The Thomist*, volume 81, number 4, (October 2017): 625-628.

Dust Bound for Heaven: Explorations in the Theology of Thomas Aquinas, by Reinhard Hütter, *Theology Today*, volume 73, number 2, (July 2016): 185-187.

Academic Presentations

“The Cantic of the Creatures and the Purpose of a Franciscan University,” *Association of Franciscan Colleges and Universities Symposium* (June 2025)

“The Catholic University at the Cross: Embracing the Stigmata in the Mission of Franciscan Universities,” *Marked with the Wounds of Christ: A Celebration of the 800th Anniversary of St. Francis of Assisi’s Reception of the Stigmata Conference*, Franciscan University of Steubenville (September 2024)

“Redeeming Creation through the Cross: Anselm and the Cosmic Scope of Salvation,” *The 47th Patristic, Medieval, and Renaissance Studies Conference at Villanova University* (October 2022)

“Anselm and Aquinas on the Satisfaction of Christ,” *Thomas Aquinas and the Crisis of Christology, A Conference at Ave Maria University* (February 2020)

“God Loves a Cheerful Giver: The Performance of Satisfaction in the *Cur Deus Homo*,” *Anselm of Canterbury: Order, Nature and the Divine, The International Association for Anselm Studies Conference*, Durham University (July 2019)

“One is the Loneliest Number: The Curious Case of the Single Gloss in the *Summa Contra Gentiles*,” *Aquinas the Biblical Theologian, A Conference at Ave Maria University* (February 2019)

“Sin and the Structure of the *Cur Deus Homo*,” *St. Anselm of Aosta, Bec and Canterbury: Theologian, Statesman, Administrator, Teacher, A Conference at The University of Houston and The University of St. Thomas* (May 2018)

“Justice and Mercy in God, On the Cross, and in the Classroom: Anselm of Canterbury’s Changing Thought.” *Catholic Theological Society of America*. (June 2016)

“The *Proslogion*, Gilbert Crispin, and the *Cur Deus homo*: Anselm’s Student and the Problems of the Incarnation.” *Reading Anselm: Context and Criticism Conference*. (July 2015)

“Thomas Aquinas’s Theology of Play and the Play of Theology.” *Catholic Theological Society of America*. (June 2014)

“Kissing the Lepers: Who Do Franciscan Universities Serve?” *Association of Franciscan Colleges and Universities Symposium* (June 2012)

“The Alleged Feudalism and the Benedictine Concepts of Obedience, Honor, and Order in Anselm’s *Cur Deus Homo*.” *Mid-America Medieval Association Annual Conference* (February 2010)

Public Presentations

Hidden Heroes: Heroic Spirituality in Everyday Life. Knights of Columbus, St. Margaret, Queen of Scotland, Albany, LA. February 2020.

The Flower of Sharon: The Ongoing Development of the Diaconate After Vatican II. A presentation to the deacons of Baton Rouge. June 2019.

Advent: Unwrapping the Gift of Christmas. A three-part Advent series on Christ and the sacraments at St. Aloysius Catholic Church, Baton Rouge. Winter 2017.

The Creed: What Do We Mean when We Say ‘I Believe’? A three-part Lenten series at St. Margaret, Queen of Scotland, Albany, LA. Spring 2017.

The Creed: What Do We Mean when We Say ‘I Believe’? A six-part Lenten series at St. Aloysius Catholic Church, Baton Rouge. Spring 2016.

Living a Life of Faith Seeking Understanding. St. Margaret, Queen of Scotland, Albany, LA. April 17, 2016.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Academy of Catholic Theology. Chairman of the Board, 2024-2028.

International Association for Anselm Studies. Board of Directors, 2015-present.

Catholic Theological Society of America. Thomas Aquinas Consultation, administrative team, 2015-17.

Association of Franciscan Colleges and Universities. Task Force on Faculty Development and the Franciscan Intellectual Tradition. 2012-15.

INSTITUTIONAL SERVICE

2011- *Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady University*
 Theology Program Chair (2017-2024)
 Faculty Senate, President (2015-2019)
 Institutional Development Committee
 Campus Ministry Task Force
 Campus Technology Committee

Presidential Search Committee (2014)
School of Nursing Dean Search Committee
Library Committee

AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, AND CERTIFICATES

- | | |
|---------|--|
| 2020 | <i>Planning for Moral Resilience in Nursing Students</i> – \$49,500, Educating Character Initiative |
| 2020 | <i>High School Youth Theology Institutes at Colleges and Universities Sustainability Grant</i> – \$223,170, Lilly Endowment, Inc. |
| 2016 | <i>High School Youth Theology Institutes at Colleges and Universities</i> – \$446,692 Lilly Endowment, Inc. |
| 2013 | <i>NetVUE Program Development Grant</i> – \$47,350
Council of Independent Colleges |
| 2013 | <i>Wabash Center Summer Research Fellowship</i> – \$5,000
Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning in Theology and Religion |
| 2012-3 | <i>Teaching and Learning Workshop for Pre-Tenure Religion Faculty in Colleges and Universities</i>
Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning in Theology and Religion |
| 2012 | <i>NetVUE Campus Visit Grant</i> – \$3,400
Council of Independent Colleges |
| 2012 | <i>Online Teaching and Learning Certificate</i>
United Theological Seminary – Five courses in online pedagogy |
| 2011-12 | <i>Schubert M. Ogden Fellowship for Academic Excellence in Theology</i> – \$6,000
Southern Methodist University Graduate Program in Religious Studies |

MEMBERSHIPS

Academy of Catholic Theology
Boston Colloquy in Historical Theology
International Association for Anselm Studies