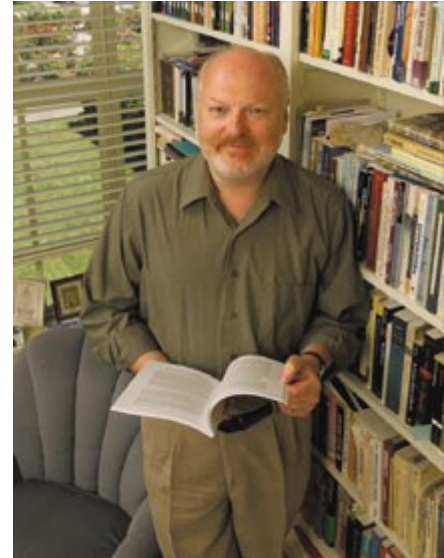


*1. What do you consider to be the most important contribution that your religion has made/ is making/ can make to the common good in a pluralist society?*

I am a Protestant Christian, but most of my teaching and research is undertaken from the secular perspective of Religious Studies. My presentation at the Nuremberg Forum will explore how a non-devotional academic approach to the study of religion can not only contribute to basic literacy about religion, but also to appreciation of diverse religious and secular worldviews as resources for students' own ecological and moral imaginations and to critical awareness of students' own taken-for-granted assumptions about themselves, their societies, and their relationship to the natural world.



*2. What are your major fields of research that are connected to public theology / public religion?*

My major fields of research are comparative ethics (with emphasis on Christianity, Buddhism, and the secular traditions of Marxism and Liberalism); religion and public education; religion and politics.

*3. What aspects are important to you about the intersection between public theology / public religion and education?*

Public or state-sponsored schools are places where people of all different faiths and those of no religious faith come together on a regular and sustained basis. It is important to develop school policies and curricula that help individuals and communities to learn to live with their deepest religious, philosophical, moral, and cultural differences rather than being torn apart by them. Education about religion and beliefs can promote respect for diversity and for the human right to freedom of conscience, and it can help diminish the religious and cultural illiteracy that often fuels prejudice and antagonism.

*4. Which of your recent publications would you recommend as pre-conference reading for participants of the Nuremberg Forum?*

*The Practices of Global Ethics: Historical Developments, Current Issues and Future Prospects*, co-author with Frederick Bird, Sumner B. Twiss, Kusumita Pedersen, and Clark A. Miller, University of Edinburgh Press, Edinburgh, 2016.

“The First Amendment Consensus Approach to Teaching about Religion in U.S. Public Schools: Applications and Assessment,” in *Civility and Education in a World of Religious Pluralism*, Vincent F. Biondo, III, and Andrew Fiala, co-editors, Routledge, New York, 2014.

“Promoting Civic and Religious Literacy in Public Schools: The California 3 Rs Project,” in *Religion in the Schools: Negotiating the New Commons*, Michael D. Waggoner, editor, Rowman & Littlefield Education, New York, 2013.