

WENDY ELGERSMA HELLEMAN

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PERSONAL

Citizenship: Canadian

EDUCATION

1980 Ph.D. in Philosophy, Free University, Amsterdam
Promotor: Prof. A.P. Bos
Topic: Plotinus, on the soul

1973 Drs. Free University, Amsterdam; in Patristics and Ancient Philosophy

1971 M.A. in Classical Languages, University of Toronto

1967 A.B. in Philosophy and Classical Languages,
Calvin College, Grand Rapids, MI, USA

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2010 Gambia Theological Institute (Kololi, The Gambia)
Courses: Introduction to the New Testament; Augustine as African Church Leader

2009 - Department of Philosophy, St. Augustine's University of Tanzania (Mwanza)
Course: Introduction to Philosophy

2002-2008 University of Nigeria in Jos, Department of Religious Studies
Courses (graduate and undergraduate): New Testament Greek, History of Early Christianity, Philosophy of Religion, The Impact of Science on Awareness of God.

2004-2005 Theological College of Northern Nigeria
Course: Basic Works of St. Augustine (graduate)

2004-2007 Nigerian Baptist Theological Seminary (Ogbomosho)
Course: Intertestamentary Language and Literature (graduate); Seminar on Research Writing

2003-2008 St. Augustine's Major Seminary, Jos
Course: History of Ancient Philosophy

1995-2002 Moscow State University, Faculty of Philosophy.
Courses: Heroes, Saints and Martyrs; Sophia as Lady Wisdom, and other courses introducing students to philosophical terminology in English.

1997-2000 Moscow Christian School of Psychology/ Center for Psychology and Psychotherapy: a Christian Perspective.
Course in Early Christian Thought; courses in English at various levels.

1997 Open Christianity, a philosophical/theological institute in St. Petersburg.
Vertical course: "Creation, Evil and Utopia: ancient pagan and Christian perspectives" (January)

- 1988-95 University of Toronto, Scarborough and Erindale Campuses.
Courses: Greek and Latin languages and literature, Education in the ancient world, Introduction to Plato, Plato's *Symposium*, Greek and Roman Mythology, Greek and Roman Civilization
- 1991 McMaster Divinity College, McMaster University (Hamilton Ont.)
Course: History of Christianity from the New Testament to the Reformation.
- 1987-88 Wilfrid Laurier University, Waterloo.
Courses: Greek and Roman Tragedy, Ancient Civilizations, Virgil's *Aeneid*, Greek Language
- 1978-86 Philippines: Asian Theological Seminary (Manila), Alliance Biblical Seminary (Manila), International School of Theology (Baguio) and Christian Reformed Seminary and Bible College (Bacolod City).
Courses: New Testament Greek, Readings in the Gospels (in Greek), Exegetical Methods, Background to the New Testament (Intertestamentary Period), Philosophy of Early Christian Fathers, Early and Medieval Christianity,

MAJOR PUBLICATIONS

- 2011 *Solovyov's Sophia as a Nineteenth-Century Russian Appropriation of Dante's Beatrice*. Lewiston: E. Mellen Press.
- 2009 *The Feminine Personification of Wisdom: A Study of Homer's Penelope, Cappadocian Macrina, Boethius' Philosophia and Dante's Beatrice*. Lewiston: E. Mellen Press.
- 2004 *The Russian Idea, in Search of a New Identity* (ed.). Bloomington, Indiana: Slavica Publishers,
- 1994 *Hellenization Revisited. The Hellenistic Context of Judaism, Gnosticism and Early Christianity* (ed.). (New York, UPA)
- 1990 *Christianity and the Classics, The Acceptance of a Heritage* (ed.). (New York, UPA)
- 1980 *Soul-Sisters. A Commentary on Plotinus' Enneads IV 3 (27) 1-8* (Amsterdam, Rodopi). Examination of the relationship of the World-Soul and the Individual Soul in Plotinus' mystic writings.

ARTICLES AND REVIEWS

- 2010 "Christ, the Wisdom of God': The Logic of Attribution in Augustine's *De Trinitate* 5-7" *Studia Patristica* XLIX, 2010: 271-277.
- "Plotinus and Magic" *The International Journal of the Platonic Tradition* 4.2, 2010: 114-146.
- "The Fullness of the Holy Spirit and Wisdom: The Qualifications of the Seven" *African Journal for Transformational Scholarship* 2.1, 2010: 1-20. Online at <http://cpchea.org/ajts/>
- 2009 "Where can Wisdom be Found? Traditional Healing in the Contemporary African Context" *Sapientia Logos* 2.1, 2009:

- Review of Steve Mason (with editorial assistance of Michael W. Helfield), *Josephus, Judea, and Christian Origins: Methods and Categories* (Peabody, MA: Hendrickson Publishers, 2009). For *Sapientia Logos* 2.1, 2009: 80-83.
- Review of Michael F. Bird and James G. Crossley (with contributions from Scot McKnight and Maurice Casey), *How Did Christianity Begin? A Believer and Non-Believer Examine the Evidence* (London UK: SPCK; Peabody MA: Hendrickson, 2008). For *Sapientia Logos* 2.1, 2009: 86-88.
- 2008 "Solov'ëv's Sophia as a Mediating Principle" in *The Icon and The Bridge; Sophia in Orthodox Culture*. Ed. Manon de Courten. Special issue of *Journal of Eastern Christian Studies* 59 (2007):185-211.
- 2007 "Philosophy as Basis of Christian-Muslim Dialogue" *TCNN Research Bulletin* 48 (Sept.): 28-40.
- "K. J. Popma and Lucian: A Critique of the Christian Fathers" in *In the Phrygian Mode*. Ed. Robert Sweetman. Lanham: University Press of America, with the Institute for Christian Studies, Toronto. 181-213.
- "Corruption in High Places: Where are our Wise Men?" *Biblical Studies and Corruption in Africa*. Ed. S.O. Abogunrin. Biblical Studies Series 6. Ibadan: Nigerian Association of Biblical Studies. 62-91
- 2006 "Gregory of Nyssa's 'Sophia': Christ, the Wisdom of God" in *Studia Patristica: Papers presented at the Fourteenth International Conference on Patristic Studies* (Oxford 2003). Eds. F. Young, M. Edwards and P. Parvis. Leuven: Peeters. vol. XLI:345-350.
- "'Civil Society' meets the 'Russian Idea'" in *Civil Society East and West*. Proceedings of the Regional Conference for Europe, International Association for the Promotion of Christian Higher Education, Moscow, Russia (Aug. 20-23, 2005). Ed. Peter Blokhuis. Sioux Center, Iowa: Dordt College Press. 82-116.
- 2005 "'Reason Opposing the Passions': Macrina as Embodiment of Wisdom in the *De Anima et Resurrectione*" in *Jesus Christ in the Theology of St. Gregory of Nyssa*. Ninth International Conference on St. Gregory of Nyssa (Athens, 7-12 September 2000). Ed. E. Moutsoulas. Athens: Theological Faculty of Athens University. 557-75
- "Justin Martyr and Kwame Bediako: Reflections on the Cultural Context of Christianity" *Africa Journal of Evangelical Theology* 24:3-18.
- 2004 "The Biblical Canon: A response to Muhib O. Opeloye, Building Bridges of Understanding between Islam and Christianity in Nigeria" (2001), in *TCNN Research Bulletin* 41 (March 2004):31-42.
- "Metaphora v literature i v filosofii: Philosophia / Sophia kak Gospoza Moodrost' (Metaphor in literature and in philosophy: Philosophia/Sophia as Lady Wisdom)" published in *Philosophia i literatura: materialy XI kharkivskiyh miznarodnyh skovorodynivskiyh chytan'* ("Philosophy and Literature: Papers presented at the Eleventh Skovoroda International Conference held in Kharkiv). Ed. A.M. Kryvulya. Kharkiv: Prometey-Pres, 2004:105-108.
- 2003 Review of Craig Brandist, *The Bakhtin Circle. Philosophy, Culture and Politics* (London, Sterling, Virginia: Pluto Press, 2002) for *Studies in East European Thought* 55.
- Review of Frances Nethercott, *Russia's Plato. Plato and the Platonic Tradition in Russian Education, Science and Ideology (1840-1930)* (Aldershot, England: Ashgate Publishing, 2000), in *Studies in East European Thought* 55:251-254 (online at the publisher's site: www.springerlink.com).

- "The 'Russian Idea': Philosophical Considerations" (in Russian) *Vestnik Moskovskogo universiteta* (Bulletin of Moscow State University), Seria 7, Philosophia, 1:86-100.
- "The Russian Idea" *Public Justice Report* 26.3:6-7.
- 2002 "Justin Martyr and the Logos: an Apologetical Strategy" *Philosophia Reformata* 67:128-147.
- 2001 "Solovyov's Plato" in *Solov'evsky Sbornik* Eds. I.V. Borisovoi, A.P. Kozyrev. Moskva: Institut Filosofii RAN:197-219.
- Review of P. Valliere, *Modern Russian Theology: Bukharev, Soloviev, Bulgakov. Orthodox Theology in a New Key*. Grand Rapids, MI: Wm. B. Eerdmans, 2000. For *Calvin Theological Journal* vol.36.2:422-425.
- "The Russian Idea/ Russkaya Ideya" *Oil & Gas Eurasia* 4:12-14.
- "Cappadocian Macrina as Lady Wisdom" *Studia Patristica: Papers presented at the Thirteenth International Conference on patristic studies* (Oxford 1999). Ed. M.F. Wiles and E.J. Yarnold, Leuven: Peeters. Vol. XXXVII:86-102.
- 2000 "Perspectives of Christian Higher Education in Philosophy" in *Higher Education in XXI Century Russian Culture: A Christian Perspective* St. Petersburg. 177-188.
- "The World-Soul and Sophia in the Early Work of Solovyov" in *Vladimir Solov'ev - Reconciler and Polemicist*. Eds. W. van den Bercken, M. de Courten, E. vander Zweerde. Leuven: Peeters. 163-184.
- "Challenges Facing Russia Today: From Communism to Chaos" *Pro Rege* (Dordt College, Iowa) 29:11-17.
- 1999 "Reading Plato for the 21st Century" *Philosophia Reformata* 64:148-64.
- "*Mirovaya Dusha i Sophia v rannei rabote Solovyova* (The World-Soul and Sophia in the early work of Solovyov) revised version of the paper in *Vladimir Solov'ev - Reconciler and Polemicist* in *Obraz mira -struktura i tseloe* (Image of the World-Structure and Whole) Moscow: Logos (1999). 465-72.
- 1998 Review of David Bolotin, *An Approach to Aristotle's Physics, with Particular Attention to the Role of his Manner of Writing*. For *Philosophy in Review /Comptes rendus philosophiques* 18:317-319.
- 1997 "Orthodoxy and Platonism" *Beweging* 61:63-67.
- 1996 "Penelope as Lady Philosophy" *Phoenix* 49:283-302.
- Review of Nancy Felson-Rubin, *Regarding Penelope: From Character to Poetics*. Princeton: Princeton UP, 1994. In *Phoenix* 50:70-71.
- 1995 "Homer's Penelope: A Tale of Feminine Arete" *Echos du Monde Classique /Classical Views* 39 n.s. 14:227-250.
- Review of Catherine Osborne, *Eros Unveiled, Plato and the God of Love*. Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1994; for *Bryn Mawr Reviews* online: ccat.sas.upenn.edu/bmcr/1995/95.09.16.html.

- 1994 Review of Marylin A. Katz, *Penelope's Renown: Meaning and Indeterminacy in the Odyssey*. Princeton: Princeton UP. In *Phoenix* 48:73-74.
- Review of Jaroslav Pelikan, *Christianity and Classical Culture, the Metamorphosis of Natural Theology in the Christian Encounter with Hellenism*. New Haven and London: Yale UP, 1993. In *Phoenix* 48:179-180.
- 1993 *Facing the Challenge of Secularism, a Study Guide*. The Reformed Ecumenical Council, Grand Rapids MI; also an unsigned paper on the historical roots of secularization, "Secularization and Secularism" for the section "Historical Perspectives" of the monograph which it accompanies, *Facing the Challenge of Secularism* (1991). 6-18
- 1991 Review of A.P. Bos, *In de Greep van de Titanen. Inleiding tot een hoofdstroming van de Griekse Filosofie* (In the Grip of the Titans. Introduction to a Major Theme in Greek Philosophy). Amsterdam: Buijten & Schipperheijn, 1991. For *Philosophia Reformata* 56:191-194.
- Review of P. W. Gooch, *Partial Knowledge: Philosophical Studies in Paul*. Chicago: University of Notre Dame Press, 1987. For *Phoenix* 45:174-77.
- 1990 "Philo of Alexandria on Deification and Assimilation to God" *Studia Philonica Annual* 2:51-71.
- 1987 "Filipino Spirituality" in *Reformed Spirituality*. Ed. P.G. Schrotenboer. A special volume of *Theological Forum* 15:43-49.
- 1986 "Mysticism and the Filipino Christian Church" Occasional Paper of ISACC (Institute for Studies in Asian Church and Culture), Quezon City, Philippines.
- 1979 "Augustine's Early Writings on a Liberal Arts Education" in *Hearing and Doing*. Toronto: Wedge. 119-133

MATERIALS SUBMITTED FOR PUBLICATION:

"Understanding Jesus' Critique of Contemporary Political Leadership. Analysis of the key verb *katexousiadzein* (Matthew 20.25)" Submitted for publication with the Nigerian Association of Biblical Studies.

"Teaching Patristics for Islamic Students" Presented at the Oxford International Patristics Conference (2007). Submitted to the Nigerian journal *Orita*.

CURRENT RESEARCH INTERESTS

Magic and African Wisdom
 Symbolization of Philosophy as Sophia (Dante and Solovyov)
 Philosophy as the basis of Christian-Muslim dialogue
 Plotinus, Neoplatonism and Christianity

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

International Association for the Promotion of Christian Higher Education
 Nigerian Association for Biblical Studies
 Jos-Bukuru Theological Society
 Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy
 The Canadian Society for Neoplatonic Studies
 The International Society for Neoplatonic Studies

The Canadian Society of Patristic Studies
The International Society of Patristic Studies (Oxford, UK)
Classical Association of Canada
Vereeniging voor Calvinistische Wijsbegeerte (Neth.)

HONORS AND AWARDS

- 1981: Grant from the government of the Netherlands for the publication of *Soul-Sisters*.
1980: Award from the "Vereeniging voor Wetenschappelijk Onderwijs op Gereformeerde Grondslag" toward completion of doctoral thesis.
1971-4: Grants from the Netherlands government for graduate studies at the Vrije Universiteit of Amsterdam
1970: Scholarship for International Students at the Vrije Universiteit
1969-70: Ontario Graduate Fellowship
1964: Alumni Scholarship, Calvin College