

Kenneth A. Ristau

EDUCATION

The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA ■ ABD Candidate (In Progress)

Ph.D. in History

Doctoral Committee: Gary Knoppers, Baruch Halpern, Ann Killebrew, and Paul Harvey

Comprehensives: Judaean Society and the History of the Near East, 625 – 333 B.C.E.

Hebrew Bible: Text, Language, and Historiography

Archaeology of the Levant, 625 – 333 B.C.E.

Hellenistic and Early Roman Jewish Historiography to Josephus

Dissertation: "Reconstructing Jerusalem in the Achaemenid Persian Period"

Directed by Gary Knoppers, Committee: Baruch Halpern, Ann Killebrew, and Paul Harvey

University of Alberta, Edmonton, AB ■ Degree Conferred 2005

M.A. in Religious Studies

Thesis: "Reading and Re-Reading Josiah: A Critical Study of Josiah in Chronicles"

Directed by Ehud Ben Zvi, Reader(s): Willi Braun, Francis Landy, Steven Hijmans

North American Baptist College, Edmonton, AB ■ Degree Conferred "with Distinction" 2002

B.A. in Religion and Theology

Specialization: Biblical Studies, Minors: Biblical Languages, History

Senior Paper: "'In the house of Judah my father's house': The Character of Joab in Chronicles"

Directed by Tyler F. Williams

LANGUAGES

Ancient Languages:

Classical Hebrew – advanced, HEB100A/B, 306, 495, private tutoring, CAMS 597B;

Greek – intermediate (exposure to Attic, Doric, Ionic, Koine), GRK100A/B, GREEK 301, 425, 596;

Aramaic – advanced (exposure to most ancient/classical dialects), CAMS 597B, 597C;

Modern Research Languages:

English – native language;

German – speak & read with competence, childhood second language, elementary & high school;

French – basic reading, junior high school, FREN 599, independent translation work;

RESEARCH & TEACHING EXPERIENCE

At **Pennsylvania State University**, University Park, PA:

Teaching Assistant – to Dr. Benjamin Hudson in HIST 001: Western Heritage I ■ Spring 2007

Teaching Assistant – to Dr. Donald Redford in CAMS 020: Egyptian Civilization ■ Fall 2006

Lecture – Persians in CAMS 012U: Lands of the Bible ■ Oct. 10, 2006

Lecture – Assyrians and Babylonians in CAMS 012U: Lands of the Bible ■ Oct. 5, 2006

Teaching Assistant – to Dr. Donald Redford in CAMS 020: Egyptian Civilization ■ Spring 2006
Teaching Assistant – to Dr. David Atwill in HIST 010: World History I ■ Fall 2005
Guest Instructor – CAMS 004: Jewish and Christian Foundations ■ Sept. 5 – 22, 2005
Teaching Assistant – to Dr. Donald Redford in CAMS 020: Egyptian Civilization ■ Spring 2005
Lecture – “The Aliyah” in CAMS 134: Biblical Archaeology ■ Feb. 17, 2005
Lecture – “The Exile” in CAMS 134: Biblical Archaeology ■ Feb. 15, 2005
Teaching Assistant – to Dr. Daniel Berman in CAMS 045: Classical Myth ■ Fall 2004

At **Tel Dor**, Israel:

Persian Period Pottery Analysis – for Ayelet Gilboa and Ilan Sharon ■ June 13 – 26, 2007
Volunteer – to Dr. Elizabeth Bloch-Smith in the Biblical Studies Group ■ June 27 – Aug. 5, 2006

At **The University of Alberta**, Edmonton, AB:

Research Assistant – to Dr. Francis Landy in Hebrew Bible ■ July 2003 – July 2004
Lecture – “The Club of Powers” in RELIG 581: Directed Reading I ■ March 16, 2004
Lecture – “1 Kings 19” in RELIG 502: Biblical Narrative ■ November 2002

At **Concordia University College**, Edmonton, AB:

Guest Lecturer – REL 342: Early Christian Fathers ■ October 23 – November 6, 2002

At **Taylor University College**, Edmonton, AB:

Research & Teaching Assistant – to Prof. Tyler Williams in Old Testament ■ 2002 – 2004

RELATED EXPERIENCE

Coordinator and Chair, CSBS Seminar on Ancient Historiography ■ May 2004 – Present

Software Review Coordinator, *Review of Biblical Literature* ■ Nov. 2005 – Nov. 2006

Editor, *Axis Mundi* (ISSN: 1496-2798), Edmonton, AB ■ Sept. 2003 – April 2004

Student Library Assistant, Schalm Memorial Library, Edmonton, AB ■ Sept. 2001 – April 2002

Youth Ministry Internship, Leduc Fellowship Church, Leduc, AB ■ Oct. 1999 – August 2000

PUBLICATIONS AND PAPERS

Edited Volumes

- With Gary Knoppers (eds). *Community Identity in Biblical Historiography: Inner Biblical and Comparative Perspectives*. In progress.

Refereed Publications

- "Rebuilding Jerusalem: Zechariah's Vision within Visions." Forthcoming.
- "Breaking Down Unity: An Analysis of 1 Chronicles 21.1–22.1." *Journal for the Study of the Old Testament* 30.2 (2005): 201-221.
- "Concerning the Will: Historical and analytical examination of Martin Luther's *The Bondage of the Will*." *Quodlibet Online Journal of Christian Theology and Philosophy* 3.2 (Spring 2001). No pages. Online: <http://www.quodlibet.net/ristau-luther.shtml>. (Undergraduate Paper)

Conference Presentations

- "Nehemiah 5 and the Economic Conditions in Yehud." Paper to be presented in the Chronicles-Ezra-Nehemiah Section at the Annual Meeting of the SBL. San Diego, Calif. November 2007.
- "Rebuilding Jerusalem: A Vision within Visions." Paper presented in the Literature and History of the Persian Period Group at the Annual Meeting of the SBL. Washington D.C. November 20, 2006.
- "Compositional Techniques in Post-Exilic Biblical Historiography: An Analysis of Ezra 2 and Nehemiah 7." Paper presented in the Chronicles-Ezra-Nehemiah Section at the Annual Meeting of the SBL. Philadelphia, Penn. November 22, 2005.
- "Of Prophets and Monarchs: The Death of Josiah in Chronicles." Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the CSBS. London, Ont. May 29 – 31, 2005.
- "Breaking Down Unity: An Analysis of 1 Chronicles 21." Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the EABS. Groningen, Netherlands. July 25 – 28, 2004.
- "The Rebirth of Israel: Family and Children in Isaiah 1-11." Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the CSBS. Winnipeg, Man. May 31, 2004.
- "Breaking Down Unity: An Analysis of 1 Chronicles 21." Winner of The Founders Prize and presented at the Annual Meeting of the CSBS. Winnipeg, Man. May 30, 2004.
- "'In the house of Judah my father's house': The Character of Joab in Chronicles." Paper presented in the Chronicles-Ezra-Nehemiah Section at the Annual Meeting of the SBL. Toronto, Ont. November 24, 2002.

Invited Exhibitions

- "Compositional Techniques in Post-Exilic Biblical Historiography: An Analysis of Ezra 2 and Nehemiah 7." Paper presented at the invitation of the Edmonton Hebrew Scriptures Satellite of the PNR-SBL. Edmonton, Alta. March 9, 2005.

Commissioned, Juried, and/or Invited Book Reviews

- Review of Dirksen, Peter. *1 Chronicles*. Historical Commentary on the Old Testament. Leuven: Peeters, 2005. *Bulletin of Biblical Research*: forthcoming.
- Review of Middlemas, Jill. *The Troubles of Templeless Judah*. Oxford Theological Monographs. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2005. *Journal of Hebrew Scriptures*: forthcoming.

- Review of Lipschits, Oded. *The Fall and Rise of Jerusalem: Judah under Babylonian Rule*. Winona Lake: Eisenbrauns, 2005. *Journal of Hebrew Scriptures* 7 (2007): [http://purl.org/jhs/] http://www.arts.ualberta.ca/JHS/reviews/review270.htm.
- Review of Hjelm, Ingrid. *Jerusalem's Rise to Sovereignty: Zion and Gerizim in Competition*. JSOTSS 404. Copenhagen International Seminar 14. London: T&T Clark International, 2004. *Biblica* 88 (2007): 139-144.
- Review of Lipschits, Oded and Manfred Oeming (eds). *Judah and the Judeans in the Persian Period*. Winona Lake, Eisenbrauns, 2006. *Journal of Hebrew Scriptures* 7 (2007): [http://purl.org/jhs/] http://www.arts.ualberta.ca/JHS/reviews/review262.htm.
- Review of Kalimi, Isaac. *An Ancient Israelite Historian: Studies in the Chronicler, His Time, Place and Writing*. Studia Semitica Neerlandica. Assen: Van Gorcum, 2005. *Review of Biblical Literature* (April 22, 2006): http://bookreviews.org/BookDetail.asp?TitleId=4847.
- Review of Kalimi, Isaac. *The Reshaping of Ancient Israelite History in Chronicles*. Winona Lake: Eisenbrauns, 2005. *Journal of Hebrew Scriptures* 5 (2004-2005): [http://purl.org/jhs/] http://www.arts.ualberta.ca/JHS/reviews/review196.htm.
- Review of Fried, Lisbeth. *The Priest and the Great King: Temple-Palace Relations in the Persian Empire*. Biblical and Judaic Studies 10. Winona Lake: Eisenbrauns, 2004. *Review of Biblical Literature* (May 14, 2005): http://bookreviews.org/BookDetail.asp?TitleId=4481. Repr. *Journal of Biblical Literature* 124 (2005): 546-548.
- Review of McKenzie, Steven. *1-2 Chronicles*. Abingdon Old Testament Commentaries. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2004. *Journal of Hebrew Scriptures* 5 (2004-2005): [http://purl.org/jhs/] http://www.arts.ualberta.ca/JHS/reviews/review171.htm.

Non-refereed Publications

- "E-Search the Scriptures: Online resources and Bible software brings a scholar's library into any home or office." *Faith Today* 22.3 (May/June 2004): 35-37. Repr. online at Christianity.ca (June 2004) and ForMinistry.com (February 2005). Awarded Third Place in the Service Journalism – Open category of the Canadian Church Press Awards (2005).
- "A comedy says more than I realized: Fathers are as important as mothers in raising children." *ChristianWeek* 16.13 (September 17, 2002): 6. Repr. pages 10-11 in *ChristianCurrent: Quinte/Kingston/Peterborough Edition* 1.8 (December 2002).
- "Computers make serious Bible study easier: *CW* reviewer Ken Ristau looks at three top Bible software programs." *ChristianWeek* 15.18 (January 8, 2002).
- "Nike is selling more than sneakers: How peddling a worldview changes a product from a luxury to a need." *ChristianWeek* 14.18 (January 9, 2001): 6.
- In addition to these articles, I worked as a *ChristianWeek* movie critic from 2001-2003, analyzing contemporary movies in dialogue with the Bible and theology, in bi- or tri-monthly articles of 300-800 words. *ChristianWeek* is a national, bi-weekly newspaper in Canada.

Other Evidence of Scholarly and Creative Achievement

- I create, organize, and maintain my own website at <http://anduril.ca/>, which is devoted to biblical studies, movies, and more. It features reviews, articles, and related links.

AWARDS

Name of Scholarship or Award	Date Awarded	Name of Institution
Archaeology Research Stipend	2007/04	Catholic Biblical Association
Travel Grant	2006/11	Penn State (Dept. of History)
Robert G. Price (Travel) Award	2006/04	Penn State (Dept. of CAMS)
Stitzer Endowment (Travel) Award	2006/04	Penn State (Dept. of History)
Scheuer Scholarship	2006/03	Biblical Archaeology Society
Archaeology Research Stipend	2006/03	Catholic Biblical Association
Travel Grant	2005/11	Penn State (Dept. of History)
Travel Grants (3)	2005/04	Penn State (Dept. of History)
SSHRC Doctoral Fellowship	2004/05	SSHRC, Government of Canada
CGS – Doctoral Scholarship	Declined 2004/05	SSHRC, Government of Canada
Mary Louise Imrie/J Gordin Kaplan		
Graduate Student (Travel) Award	2004/08	University of Alberta (FGSR)
Travel Grant	2004/08	University of Alberta (Dept.)
Travel Grant	2004/04	European Association of Biblical Studies
Graduate Student Scholarship	2004/04	Alberta Learning, Government of Alberta
Graduate Scholar Award	2004/03	Penn State (College of Liberal Arts)
Graduate Assistantship	2004/03	Penn State (Dept. of History)
The Founders Prize	2004/02	Canadian Society of Biblical Studies
Walter Johns Graduate Fellowship	2003/09	University of Alberta (FGSR)
CGS - Master's Scholarship	2003/09	SSHRC, Government of Canada
Travel Grant	2002/11	University of Alberta (Dept.)
Grant for Tuition & Fees	Declined 2002/07	Harvard Divinity School
Graduate Research Scholarship	Declined 2002/07	University of Calgary
Christ Church Peter Craigie		
Memorial Graduate Award	Declined 2002/07	University of Calgary
The Award in Sr. Old Testament	2002/04	North American Baptist College
The Award in History	2001/04	North American Baptist College
The Award in Sr. Old Testament	2001/04	North American Baptist College
The Award in Theology	2001/04	North American Baptist College
Dean's Scholarship	2001/04	North American Baptist College
The Award in Sr. Old Testament	2000/04	North American Baptist College
William & Lillian Goltz Scholarship	2000/04	North American Baptist College
The Award in Introductory English	1999/04	North American Baptist College

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Schools of Oriental Research (Since 2006)
Canadian Society of Biblical Studies (Since 2002)
Catholic Biblical Association (Since 2005)
Israel Exploration Society (Since 2006)
Society of Biblical Literature (Since 2000)

SUMMARY OF PROSPECTIVE TEACHING AREAS

Graduate and Undergraduate: Ancient Near East, Archaeology of the Levant in the Persian Period, Hebrew Bible, History of the Levant to the Early Roman Period, Herodotus, Historical Methodology, Jewish Historiography to Josephus, Septuagint; Aramaic, Hebrew, Greek

Undergraduate Only: Christian Theology, Classical Historiography, Egyptian Civilization to the Early Roman Period, History of Christianity (All Periods), New Testament, Second Temple Literature, Syro-Palestinian Archaeology, Western Civilization, World History