

Curriculum Vitae

Dr. Robert A. Hunt

Director of Global Theological Education

Professor of Christian Mission and Interreligious Relations

P.O. Box 750133

Southern Methodist University

Dallas, TX 75275-0133

Email: roberth@smu.edu

Born December 15, 1955 in Dallas, Texas.

Professional Associations:

Fellow: Hunt Center for Engineering and the Humanities, Inclusive Economy Consortium member.

SMU Doctor of Liberal Studies Foundational Faculty (*Affiliate Faculty, Simmons School of Education and Human Development*)

SMU Human Centered Interdisciplinary Studies Advisory Council

Board of the International Social /Human Development Management Council (Philippines)

Editorial Board, *Methodist Review*

Academic Credentials:

PhD. History Faculty, University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur, 1994.

MTh, Southern Methodist University, Perkins School of Theology, 1982.

BA (honors), History, University of Texas, 1977.

Academic Experience:

2004 – Present: Director of Global Theological Education, Perkins School of Theology, Southern Methodist University. Lecturing in World Religions, Evangelism, Islam, Mission Studies, and Inter-religious Dialogue.

2006 – Present: SMU Human Centered Interdisciplinary Studies, Advisory Council, Lecturing in Doctor of Liberal Studies Core course: Cultural Understandings of Humanity, DLS/MLS courses in Asian Religions, Western Religions, Cultural Intelligence, and Humanity in an AI Age.

2013 – 2018: Director of the Center for Evangelism, Perkins School of Theology, Southern Methodist University.

2009, 2011, 2012 (Spring Terms) – Visiting Professor in Mission and Evangelism, Austin Presbyterian Seminary.

2004 – 2005: Visiting Professor in World Religions, Perkins School of Theology

1997- 2004: Adjunct Professor of World Religions and History/International Studies; Webster University, Vienna, Austria.

1993-1997: Lecturer in Islam, Asian Culture and Religions, and Practical Theology, Director of Continuing Education / Field Education: Trinity Theological College, Singapore.

1992-1993: Sabbatical Leave.

1990-1992: Adjunct Lecturer in Comparative Religions, Inti College, Subang Jaya, Malaysia.

1985-1992: Lecturer in Practical Theology and Comparative Religions, Director of Continuing Education: Seminari Theoloji Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

Other Professional Experience:

1997-2004: Pastor, English Speaking United Methodist Church of Vienna

1980-1984: Associate Pastor; Bethany United Methodist Church, Austin.

Current Projects:

- *Real Humanity in and AI Age*: Book, Audiobook, Podcast, Blog. March 2025, Wipf and Stock.
- Recent OpEd pieces.
 - Fox Business Media, March 2 2025 <https://www.foxnews.com/opinion/ai-is-all-brain-and-no-ethics>
 - The Hill Feb 16 2025 <http://thehill.com/opinion/technology/5143728-ai-agents-reshape-humanity>
 - Inside Sources July 6 2024 <https://insidesources.com/pandemic-prompts-class-on-digitally-mediated-ministry>
 - DMN Oct 15 2022, <https://www.dallasnews.com/opinion/commentary/2022/10/16/the-more-we-think-of-ai-as-human-the-more-we-think-of-ourselves-as-machines>
 - DMN June 1 2024 <https://www.dallasnews.com/opinion/commentary/2024/06/02/shall-we-lose-our-humanity-for-ai>
 - DC Journal June 25, 2024 <https://dcjournal.com/skilled-artists-create-art-creatives-no>
 - DMN Feb 4 2023 <https://www.dallasnews.com/opinion/commentary/2023/02/04/chatgpt-isnt-going-to-make-us-slaves-uninspired-education-might/>
- *Interfaith Encounters* YouTube channel. <https://youtube.com/@interfaithencounters>. (See recent series on AI and Real Humanity)
- *Interfaith Encounters* Blog [https:// robertahunt.blogspot.com](https://robertahunt.blogspot.com)
- *Crossroads of Christianity and Culture* Blog <https://xroadschristianityandculture.blogspot.com>
- *Interfaith Encounters* Podcast <https://interfaith-encounters.simplecast.com>. And all podcast platforms

Current Scholarly Outreach:

- Speaker and panelist on AI and Humanity at the BigBang! Conference for Social Venture Partners, Sept. 24, 2024.
- Teaching on AI in local churches: First UMC Dallas, Lover's Lane UMC Dallas, Highland Park UMC Dallas, Lake Highlands UMC Dallas, University Park UMC Dallas.

- Teaching nationally: Glenn UMC, Virginia, St. Andrews UMC, Denver.
- Podcast interviews:
 - For Real Life (Podcast) Pierre Cohen, pierre@pierrecohenmusic.com
 - Blue Prism (Podcast), Brad Hairston, brad.hairston@sscinc.com
 - The Weight (podcast), Eddie Raster, aerester@gmail.com
- Upcoming: *SMU Town and Gown*, presentation March 12, 2025.
- Upcoming: *Teaching and Learning with AI Conference*, presentation May 24, 2025.

Traditional Publications:

- **Books**
 - *All Brain and No Soul? Real Humanity in an AI Age*. Wipf and Stock, 2025.
 - *Muslim Faith and Value: A Guide for Christians*, Wipf and Stock, 2019.
 - *Handbook of Popular Spiritual Movements in Malaysia, Singapore, and Indonesia*, ed. Michael Poon and John Roxborough, consulting editors Loh I-to, Charles Farhadian, Robert Hunt, Daniel Wee. Center for the Study of Christianity in Asia, 2015
 - *The Gospel and the Nations: A Documentary History of Inculturation*, Orbis Press, Spring, 2010.
 - *Muslim Citizens of the Globalized World*, (The Light and IID Press, Somerset, New Jersey, 2006) Robert Hunt and Alp Aslandogan, eds.
 - *Muslim Faith and Values, What Every Christian Should Know*, (New York: GBGM Press, 2003)
 - *Islam in Southeast Asia* (Kuala Lumpur: GBGM Press/Methodist Church of Malaysia, 1999)
 - *William Shellabear, A Biography* (Kuala Lumpur: University of Malaya Press, 1995)
 - *Christianity in Malaysia: a Denominational History*, Robert Hunt, Lee Kam Hing, John Roxborough, eds. (Petaling Jaya: Pelanduk Press, 1990)
- **Contributions to Reference Works**
 - "The History of Christianity in Southeast Asia" *Encyclopedia of Christian Civilization*, Blackwell Publishing (2008)
 - "William Shellabear" in *The Oxford Dictionary of National Biography*, Blackwell Publishing (2008)
 - "Bible Translation," in *Encyclopedia of Protestantism*, Hans J. Hillerbrand, ed. (Routledge, 2003)
 - "Modern Mission among Muslims," in *Christian Mission in the Third Millennium*, ed. Charles Cole, (New York: GBGM Press, 2003)
 - "J.A.B. Cook," "Covenant of Omar," "James M. Thoburn," "Benjamin Keasberry," "Malacca," "Stamford Raffles," "Sino-Japanese War," "Umar I," "Umayyad Caliphate," in *Dictionary of Asian Christianity*, Scott Sunquist, John Chew, and David Wu, eds. (Chicago: Eerdmans, 2001)
 - "Benjamin Peach Keasberry," "Thomas Beighton," *Dictionary of Evangelical Biography*, Donald Lewis, ed. (Oxford: Blackwell, 1995)
 - "Samuel Abraham," "Burr Baughman," "Thomas Beighton," "J.A.B. Cook," "Sophia Cooke," "Goh Hood Keng," "Benjamin Peach Keasberry," "Lucius Mamora (Simamora)," "William F. Oldham," "Hans Schärer," "William Shellabear," in

Biographical Dictionary of Christian Missions, Gerald Anderson, ed. (New York: Macmillan Library Reference, 1997)

- "Historical Overview of Christian Social Services in Malaysia," in *Trends and Challenges in Social Service Today*, (Kuala Lumpur: Council of Churches of Malaysia, 1989)
- "Historical Overview of Christian Responses to Social Problems in Malaysia," in *Essays in Honour of David Bohler*, (Kuala Lumpur: Graduate Christian Fellowship, 1988)

- **Articles and Chapters**

- Essay "Transcultural Worship and Mission" in "Missiological reflections on the "Nairobi Statement on Worship and Culture" James R. Krabill, with Robert Hunt, Roch Ntankeh, Anne Zaki and T.V. Thomas, in *OCMS Transformation journal*, Spring 2024
- "Christian Mission in an Age of Contested Identities" Chapter in Fensham Festshrift, Wipf and Stock, Pickwick, Summer 2024.
- "The Twentieth Century Methodist Mission to the Malays: Faithful Mission at the Complex Boundary of Religious Diversity, Ethnic Rivalry, and Political Aspirations." *Methodist History*, Vol LVIII, Numbers 1&2, October 2019 and January 2020.
- "The Wider Ecumenism," in *The Logic of Evangelism, A Classic Revisited*, ed Vaughn Baker, Wipf and Stock. 2019.
- "Our Journey in Multifaith Education," *Teaching in a Multifath World*, ed. Eleazar Fernandez, Wipf and Stock, 2016.
- "Public Missiology in an Age of Anxious Tribalism," *Missiology: An International Review*, April 2016
- "Indigenous Senoi Christianity: A Preliminary Investigation" in *Handbook of Popular Spiritual Movements in Malaysia, Singapore, and Indonesia*, ed. Michael Poon and John Roxborough, consulting editors Loh I-to, Charles Farhadian, Robert Hunt, Daniel Wee. Center for the Study of Christianity in Asia, 2015
- "Religion, Business and Contestation in Malaysia and Singapore" with Edmund Gomez and John Roxborough. Editors for *Pacific Affairs*, Vol. 88, No 2, June 2015.
- "Response to Gary Lease's "What are the humanities and why do they matter," *Reinventing Religious Studies, Key Writings in the History of a Discipline*, ed. Scott S. Elliott, Acumen Publishing Limited, Durham, 2013
- "The Demonic as a Missiological Problem," *Church and Society in Asia Today*, 2012, Vol. 15, No.3
- "Muslims, Modernity, and the Prospects of Christian-Muslim Dialogue," *Journal of Interreligious Dialogue*, 2011, Number 7.
- "The History of the Lausanne Movement" *International Bulletin of Missionary Research*, April, 2011.
- "Can Real Muslims Engage in Inter-religious Dialogue? A Study of Malay-Muslim Identity in Contemporary Malaysia" *Muslim World*, Fall, 2009.
- "Teaching through Practice: Engaging Divinity Students in Interfaith Dialogue," in *Pedagogies for Interfaith Dialogue*, ed. David Roozen, Hartford Seminary, 2009.
- "Christian Identity in a Pluralistic World" *Missiology* – April, 2009
- "Soal yang Berganti-Ganti dalam Penerjemahan Kitab Suci ke dalam Bahasa Melayu pada Abad ke-19 dan 20," pp. 513-526, "William Shellabear dan Alkitab Terjemahannya," pp. 1057-1065 in Henri Chambert-Loir (ed.), Sadur: Sejarah

Terjemahan di Indonesia dan Malaysia. Jakarta: KPG (Kepustakaan Populer Gramedia), 2009, ("Changing Issues in the Translation of the Bible in the 19th and 20th Centuries," and "William Shellabear and the Translation of the Bible into Malay" in *History of Translation in Indonesia and Malaysia*, ed. Henri Loir, Jakarta: KPG, 2009

- "Reforming American Views of Muslims," in *World Christianity in Muslim Encounter*, ed. Stephen Goodwin, Continuum International, 2008
- "A Response to Ng Kam Weng on the prospects of Inter-Religious understanding in Malaysia," *The Quest for Covenant Community and Pluralist Democracy in an Islamic Context*, ed. Mark Chan, Center for the Study of Christianity in Asia, Trinity Theological College, Singapore, 2008.
- "Islam in Austria," *Muslim World*, Vol. 92, Numbers 1&2, 2002: 115-128.
- "The Legacy of William Shellabear," *International Bulletin of Missionary Research*, Vol. 26, No. 1, 2002: 28-31.
- „Islam und Christentum: Der Staat im Islam,“ *Verhandlungsbericht der 51. Tagung des Executivekomitees*, 2000: 67-72.
- Response to Gary Lease's "What Are the Humanities, and Why Do They Matter?" Council of Societies for the Study of Religion Bulletin, 28 no 1 F 1999, p 17-18.
- „Islam und Christentum: A Brief Guide to the Study of Islam: Anthropology and Soteriology,“ *Verhandlungsbericht der 50. Tagung des Executivekomitees*, 1999: 61-77.
- „Islam und Christentum: Revelation,“ *Verhandlungsbericht der 50. Tagung des Executivekomitees*, 1998: 66-79.
- "Christian Theological Reflection and Education in the Muslim Societies of Malaysia and Indonesia," *Studies in World Christianity* (New College, Edinburgh), Vol. 3.2, 1997: 202 - 225.
- "Inter-religious Conflict and Compromise in Late 19th and Early 20th century Singapore," *Sejarah* (University of Malaya), No. 4, 1996: 63 - 82.
- "Individual, Community, State and Perceptions of Human Rights and Religious Freedom," *Trinity Theological College Journal*, Vol. 4, 1995: 15-30.
- "Basic Bibliography of Islam in Southeast Asia," (with Olaf Schumann) *Trinity Theological College Journal*, Vol. 4, 1995: 59 - 66.
- "The Life of William Shellabear," *Journal of the Malaysian Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society*, Vol. LXVI, Part 2, 1993: 37 - 72.
- "Have you not seen a vain vision? The marginalization of the United Methodist Church in Malaysian Society," *Asian Journal of Theology*, Vol. 5, No. 2, 1991: 410 - 428.
- "William Shellabear and His Bible," *Methodist History*, Vol. XXIX, Number 1, 1990: 14 - 20.
- "The History of the Translation of the Bible into Malay," *Journal of the Malaysian Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society*, Vol. LXII, Part 1, 1989: 35 - 56.

- **Reviews**

I have published numerous reviews in the Dallas Morning News, *Missiology*, *Muslim World*, and *Reviews in Religion and Theology*, *The Journal of Interreligious Dialogue*, and *Patheos Book Portal*.

- **Past Professional Projects and Engagements:**

- Researcher in the Hartford School of Theology “Pedagogies for Interfaith Dialogue Project.” Led by Dr David Roozen, (Wabash Foundation Grant) 2008 - 2012.
- Participant in the Madrid Interfaith Conference, 2008 sponsored by HRH King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud and HRH King Juan Carlos of Spain
- Participant/Presenter in the *Inter-Religious Dialogue Conference*, (April, 2006) sponsored by the Methodist Church in Macedonia and the Macedonian Center for International Cooperation and the *World Conference on Dialogue among Religions and Civilizations* (October, 2007) sponsored by the Ministry of Culture of the government of Macedonia. And subsequently in 2010 and 2013.
- Participant/Presenter in *Toward a Global Family: A Buddhist Muslim Dialogue*, United Nations, New York, 2008,
- Participant/Presenter in the *Beijing Symposium on Muslim Buddhist Dialogue* of the Religious Studies Department of Beijing University and Ling Jiu Mountain Buddhist Society Museum of World Religions. (October 2007)
- Advisor to the General Board of Global Ministry Regional Studies of Islam project (1995 – 2004)
- Coordinator of the European Region “Pastor-Theologian Program” of the Center for Theological Inquiry, Princeton Seminary. (2001 – 2003)
- Testimony on Religious Discrimination in Western Europe for the U.S. House of Representatives Foreign Relations Committee, given June 14th, 2000. I also met annually for consultations with both State Department and House of Representatives staff regarding religious freedom in Western Europe (1998 – 2003).
- Advisor on Islam and Inter-religious relations to the Theological Commission of the South-Central Europe Central Conference (1997 – 2004)
- Southeast Asian Coordinator for the Study of Christian Theological Education in Muslim Societies, Center for the Study of Christianity in the Non-western World, Edinburgh University (1997 – 2001) (a Pew Foundation funded project led by Dr. David Kerr)
- From 1993 to 1997 As a member of the Trinity Theological College faculty I lead and participated in numerous interreligious dialogue conferences sponsored by the Methodist Church of Singapore and the Singapore government.
- From 1989 to 1993 I served as an editor and translator of the *Al Kitab*, the current Malay Language translation of the Bible, sponsored by the Bible Society of Malaysia and led by Dr. David Soesilo.

Professional Associations:

- Certified Cultural Intelligence Trainer
- American Society for Missiology (Advisory Board Member 2009 – 2014, Ex-officio Executive Board Member 2014 – present.)
- Association of Professors of Missiology (Vice President, 2007 - 2008, President 2008 – 2009)
- American Academy of Religion
- Methodist Historical Society (U.S. and World)

- International Association of Mission Studies
- Malaysian Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society

Languages:

- **Malay/Indonesian, German, English**

Community Service and other:

I am a past member of the Board of Governors of the American International School of Vienna and the Executive Board of the Fulton School, Rockwall, Texas.

I play French horn and jazz guitar in local bands and orchestras as opportunity allows. I enjoy sailing, mountaineering, cycling, and scuba diving as hobbies.

Commodore of the White Rock Boat Club.

I have been married for 44 years to Lilian, Liong Huan Wong. We have two children. Naomi Hunt is married and lives in Vienna, Austria. Elliott Hunt is married and lives in Los Angeles, California.