

Sheri D. Kling

735 University Ave • Sewanee, TN 37375 • 931.598.3349 • sdkling@sewanee.edu

Education

- PhD, MAR* *Claremont School of Theology*
Religion: Process Studies (includes theology, spirituality, philosophy, and interreligious studies); Scholarships/Grants: Claremont School of Theology, Lutheran Church of the Resurrection (Marietta, GA), Prince of Peace Lutheran Church (Covina, CA), Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
- MATS* *Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago*
Religion & Science Emphasis
Scholarships/Grants: Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, Lutheran Church of the Resurrection (GA)
- BA* *Purdue University*
Interpersonal & Public Communication
- Verified Certificate* *University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill*
Positive Psychology, via Coursera

Current Employment/Affiliations

Executive Director of the Beecken Center and Associate Dean of the School of Theology, *Sewanee: The University of the South* (Sewanee, TN) July 2018 – present (employment details below)

Cooperating Visiting Lecturer, Social and Spiritual Determinants of Health program, *Palacky University*, Olomouc, Czech Republic, beginning Sept 2017

Faculty, *Haden Institute*, Dream Group Leader Training, Asheville, NC, beginning February 2018

Publications

- Dissertation: "Fragmentation, Integration, Transformation: Synthesizing Process Thought and Analytical Psychology to Construct a Transformative Relational-Imaginal Praxis for Psycho-Spiritual Wholeness and Flourishing." April 2017
- Book chapter: "Avoiding a Fatal Error: Extending Whitehead's Symbolism beyond Language," in *Rethinking Whitehead's Symbolism: Thought, Language, and Culture*, Edinburgh University Press, September 2017.
- Book chapter: "An Aesthetic Revolution of Love," in *For Our Common Home: Process-Relational Responses to Laudato Si'*, Process Century Press, August 25, 2015.
- Book chapter: "Bifurcation: Divorce or Divergence?" Response to Jeffery D. Long ("Non-Duality, the Bifurcation of Nature, and the Question of Maya: the Integration of Jain, Vedantic,

and Process Approaches to Deep Ecology”) and Donald A. Crosby (“In Imago Naturae: the Ultimacy of Nature as a Closing of the Gaps”), in *Beyond the Bifurcation of Nature*, Cambridge Scholars Publishing, November 2014.

- Journal Article: “Wisdom Became Flesh: An Analysis of the Prologue to the Gospel of John.” *Currents in Theology and Mission*, Vol. 40, No. 3, June 2013.
- Book Review: “*The Holy Spirit, Chi, and the Other: A Model of Global and Intercultural Pneumatology*, by Grace Ji-Sun Kim.” *Journal of Inter-Religious Dialogue*, Issue 10, September 2012.
- Journal Article: “Darwin, Hubble, and God: Theologies of ‘The Fall’ in Light of Modern Science.” *Claremont Journal of Religion*, Issue 2, July 2012.
- Book: *Finding Home: Rural Reflections on the Journey to Wholeness*, an independently published compilation of essays that were first featured as a regular column in the *Northeast Georgian* newspaper, Clarkesville, GA, 2008.

Teaching, Facilitation, and Course Development

- Faculty, Dream Group Leader Training Intensive, Haden Institute, Asheville, NC, beginning February 2018
- Teaching Assistant, “Qualitative Research Methods for Practical Theology,” for Dr. Samuel Lee, and “Introduction to Christian Ethics,” for Dr. Grace Yia-Hei Kao, Claremont School of Theology, Claremont, CA, Spring 2017 and Fall 2013.
- Curricular material for Interprofessional Education course at Western University of Health Sciences that is required for all first-year students of nine graduate health programs
- “Adult Education in the Health Sciences” online course developed in Articulate for faculty development program consisting of two modules: “Understanding Teaching Styles: Pedagogy and Andragogy,” and “The Challenge of the Adult Learner in the Health Sciences,” Western University of Health Sciences, June 2016.
- “Dream Work: A Powerful Spiritual Practice for Individuals and Church Groups,” Growth in Faith series, Lutheran School of Theology, Chicago, IL, 2011.
- Facilitator, Interprofessional Education Program, Western University of Health Sciences, Pomona, CA, 2011.

Qualitative Research

- “The God of Their Dreams: A Qualitative Inquiry into the Lived Experience of Christian Dream Workers and the Mystical Nature of their Experience,” an IRB-approved qualitative research project using participant interviews and Interpretative Phenomenological Analysis.

Awards

- (Earnest) Hartmann Award for Student Research, International Association for the Study of Dreams, June 2017
- President’s Award for Academic Excellence, doctoral level

Presentations

- “Healing our Collective Pain: Worldviews, Dreamwork, and Transformation,” plenary address, Haden Institute Summer Dream & Spirituality Conference, Hendersonville, NC, May 2018
- “The Dreaming Body and Religious Experience,” workshop, Natural Spirituality Regional Gathering, Toccoa, GA, February 2018 and Haden Institute Summer Dream & Spirituality Conference, Hendersonville, NC, May 2018
- “The Terrible Need for Metaphysics’: Answering Hillman’s Challenge through Whitehead,” International Transpersonal Conference, Czech Republic, September 2017
- “Perceiving Body, Perceiving World: A Relational-Imaginal Theory of Dreaming,” Palacky University, Czech Republic, September 2017
- “Real Spirituality for your Church: Worship,” webinar presentation for Process and Faith, Center for Process Studies, Claremont, CA, September 2017
- “The God of Their Dreams: Christian Dreamworkers’ Experience and its Mystical Nature,” International Association for the Study of Dreams Annual Conference, Anaheim, CA, June 2017
- Response to Lisa Dahill (“Rewilding Christian Spirituality : Bonhoeffer and Ecology”) Fifth Annual Bonhoeffer Festival, Claremont School of Theology Lutheran Studies Center, Claremont, CA, April 2016.
- “An Aesthetic Revolution of Love,” For Our Common Home: Authors in Dialogue over *Laudato Si’*, Center for Process Studies, Claremont School of Theology, Claremont, CA, April 2016.
- “The God of Their Dreams: A Qualitative Inquiry into the Lived Experience of Christian Dream Workers and the Mystical Nature of their Experience,” Mysticism Program Unit, American Academy of Religion (AAR/SBL National Conference), San Diego, CA, November 2014.
- “Eco-Feminism”, co-teaching of class session with Philip Clayton, Claremont School of Theology, Claremont, CA, November 2014.
- “Dreams and Suffering in the Book of Job,” plenary address, Haden Institute Summer Dream & Spirituality Conference, Hendersonville, NC, June 2014.
- “Re-Tune-ing Religion,” Southeastern Commission for the Study of Religion (SECSOR), Atlanta, GA, March 2014.
- “God as Eros: Desire and Embodiment in Whitehead, Jung, and Lane.” Religions in Conversation Conference, Claremont Graduate University, Claremont, CA, 2013.
- “Bifurcation: Divorce or Divergence?” Response to Jeffery D. Long (“Non-Duality, the Bifurcation of Nature, and the Question of Maya: the Integration of Jain, Vedantic, and Process Approaches to Deep Ecology”) and Donald A. Crosby (“In Imago Naturae: the Ultimacy of Nature as a Closing of the Gaps”). Beyond the Bifurcation of Nature Conference, Claremont Lincoln University and the Center for Process Studies, Claremont, CA, 2013.
- “We All Are Related: A Contemporary Eco-Process Hymn.” International Society for the Study of Religion, Nature & Culture Conference, Malibu, CA, 2012.

- “Sacred Serpent, Sacred Tree, Sacred Dreams.” Haden Institute Summer Dream & Spirituality Conference, Hendersonville, NC, 2012.
- “Darwin, Hubble, and God: Theologies of ‘The Fall’ in Light of Modern Science.” Claremont Lincoln University National Student Conference, Claremont, CA, 2012.
- “Goddess, Serpent, Tree: A Comparative Exploration of Ancient Near East and Hindu Symbols.” South Asian Studies Association Conference, Claremont, CA, 2012.
- “Every Night a Eucharist: Exploring a Contemporary Theological Framework for Dream Work.” International Association for the Study of Dreams Regional Conference, Rancho Palos Verdes, CA and the Haden Institute Summer Dream & Spirituality Conference, Hendersonville, NC, 2011.
- “Christ as Creative Transformation and Archetypal Self: Resonances between Process and Jungian Thought.” Student Symposium on Science and Spirituality, Religion & Science Student Society, Zygon Center for Religion & Science, Chicago, IL, 2011.
- “Wisdom Become Flesh: An Analysis of the Prologue to the Gospel of John.” North Chicago Theological Initiative, Mundelein, IL and at the 2011 Academic Forum, Lutheran School of Theology, Chicago, IL, 2011.
- “Frans de Waal, Morality & Theology.” Religion & Science Student Society, Zygon Center for Religion & Science, Chicago, IL, 2010.
- Response to Philip Clayton (“Human Uniqueness Evolved and Evolving: Biology, Culture, and Transcendence”) Religion and Science Student Society and the Zygon Center for Religion and Science, Chicago, IL, 2010.
- “A Serpent, A Woman, A Tree: How the Yahwist Used Three Powerful Symbols As a Unit to Explain Suffering.” North Chicago Theological Initiative, Mundelein, IL and at the 2010 Academic Forum, Lutheran School of Theology, Chicago, IL, 2010.
- “Using Story & Myth in our Dialogue with God,” Natural Spirituality Regional Gathering, Toccoa, GA, 2008.

Public Lectures, Workshops, Retreats, and Arts in Education

- “Meditations on *The Spirituality of Imperfection*,” Women’s Retreat, Grace-Calvary Episcopal Church, Clarkesville, GA, 2008.
- “True Colors: Kaleidoscope Living with Purpose, Passion & Joy,” Keynote address, Brewster Kaleidoscope Society International Conference, Nashville, TN, 2005 (also the Humanists of Georgia, 2008).
- “Working with Beauty,” Keynote, Women in Business Breakfast, Habersham County Chamber of Commerce, 2007.
- “Dialogue with God,” Sermon/song presentation, Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Marietta, GA, 2006 and Center for Positive Living, Rome, GA, 2007.

- “The Butterfly Dawns: Tracing Inanna’s Journey through Descent to Rebirth,” featured speaker, Jung Society of Sarasota, FL, June, 2006.
- “The Artist as Interpreter: An Exploration of the Hero Archetype,” Arts in Education program for World Literature classes, Alpharetta High School, Alpharetta, GA, 2006, also delivered at 2006 Mythic Journeys Conference, Atlanta, GA.
- “Dying and Rising: Experiencing Transformation through Ancient Stories and Modern Practices,” Cedar Hill Enrichment Center, Dawsonville, GA and Mary & Martha’s Place, Atlanta, GA, 2006.
- “Dreams as Dialogue with God”, St. Paul’s Episcopal Church Parish Retreat, NC, 2006.
- “Plunging In,” Sermon/song presentation, Kihei Lutheran Church, Maui, HI, 2005.
- “Passion for God,” St. Mark’s Episcopal Church Women’s Retreat, Sewanee, TN, 2005.
- Songwriting workshop and performance, Sandhills Writers Conference, Augusta State University, Augusta, GA, 2003.

Professional Development

*Conferences
Attended
(* denotes
presentation
delivered)*

- American Academy of Religion, 2010, 2011, 2014*, 2015
- Haden Institute Summer Dream & Spirituality Conference, 2011*, 2012*, 2014*
- Southeastern Commission for the Study of Religion, 2014*
- Games for Health, 2013
- International Society for the Study of Religion, Nature & Culture, 2012*
- Religions in Conversation Conference, 2012*
- South Asian Studies Association, 2012*
- International Association for the Study of Dreams, 2011* (regional), 2012
- Zygon Center Symposium on Science and Spirituality, 2011*
- Goshen College Conference in Religion and Science, 2010

*Training and
Development*

- Faculty Academic Boot Camp, WesternU, July 2016
- Facilitator training for problem-based learning small groups, WesternU
- Staff/Faculty Development courses in Articulate Studio, Flipping the Classroom, Gamification for Learning, WesternU

Employment

Responsibilities/Accomplishments

<p><i>Sewanee: The University of the South</i> <i>(Sewanee, TN) July 2018 – present</i> Executive Director of the Beecken Center and Associate Dean of the School of Theology</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Leads the Beecken Center, including developing the Center’s vision, strategy, programs, business plans, marketing, trainings, and events.• Assesses trends in Christian education and formation to identify opportunities for the School of Theology and engages in public scholarship.• Develops new curricula for the Center.• Represents and promotes the Center throughout the Church.
<p><i>Palacky University</i> <i>(Olomouc, Czech Republic) beginning Sept 2017</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cooperating Visiting Lecturer in Social and Spiritual Determinants of Health.
<p><i>Sewanee: The University of the South</i> <i>(Sewanee, TN) July 2017 – June 2018</i> Associate University Registrar for Curriculum, Publications, and Communication</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Maintained University catalog in Banner and Courseleaf.• Created a <i>Guide to the University Catalog</i>.• Designed student and faculty email messages with inviting images and high open rates.
<p><i>Western University of Health Sciences</i> <i>(Pomona, CA) January 2012 – June 2017</i> Project Manager, Strategic Planning and Interprofessional Education, Office of the Vice Provost for Academic Affairs</p> <p>Manage strategic planning for health sciences university with nine graduate colleges, 3,800 students, and 1,200 staff/faculty; assist as needed with other projects such as campus/space planning and evaluation of new program submissions. Assist in development of course materials for Interprofessional Education Program. Working at WesternU while a doctoral student at Claremont School of Theology.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lead writer, University Strategic Plan, 2013-2018.• Co-authored and edited first-ever program review of an interprofessional education program in the U.S.• Co-authored strategic initiative proposal for education technology that resulted in funding for virtual modular framework.• Facilitated/planned strategic planning meetings and retreats with faculty, administration, and trustees.• Developed media-rich, interactive online courses with voiceover narration in Articulate Studio.
<p><i>Claremont School of Theology</i> <i>(Claremont, CA) Fall 2014 and Spring 2017</i> Teaching Assistant</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Graded tests and papers; used Sakai LMS.• Developed and delivered class session content.• Supported professor in class discussions, assisted students with projects.

HeartSprings Productions LLC

(Marietta/Demorest, GA) 2003-2008

Consultant, Independent Producer, and Performing Songwriter

Developed strategic messaging, communication and marketing for client companies. Producer and project manager for meetings, events, videos, marketing collateral and other special projects. Sole executive in charge of all aspects of business – sales, marketing, public relations, accounting, customer service, product development and production, etc. Performed concerts and presentations/workshops/keynotes as performing singer/songwriter. Teacher and workshop leader.

- Established strategic messaging and managed client marketing and communications projects with multiple creative resources.
- Authored/edited scripts for technology product marketing and management training courses to tailor them to an online audience; recorded voiceover narration and managed audio engineering and editing.
- Produced multiple U.S. and European online software sales demos that were well-received by both leaders and sales; developed communication strategy and messaging; managed schedule, budget and team of creative resources, including writer, voiceover talent, music editor and flash programmer while working with client subject matter experts.
- Developed confident presence on stage and in front of groups; self-produced and self-published three music CDs since 2002 plus a book of essays.

Geac, now Infor, formerly Dun & Bradstreet Software (Atlanta, GA), 1999 –2003

Manager, Creative Services and Conference Production

Coached senior executives for speaking engagements. Produced media and general sessions for conferences. Assisted in establishing division marketing vision, message and strategy, including identity and branding. Developed lead generation programs for net new business sales; produced marketing collateral, website content, customer newsletters, video, direct marketing programs, tradeshow materials, and meetings.

- Developed trusted working relationship with senior executives as both a creative resource and as a general “sounding board.”
- Produced meetings and accompanying media for up to 2000 attendees.
- Managed staff resulting in increased production year over year of 130% in press releases, 63% in collateral produced and 50% in number of communication touches to customer base.
- Directed production/communications staff members, including functions of writing, audio-visual and creative/print production for up to six product lines.

Clarus Corporation, formerly SQL Financials (Suwanee, GA) 1997-1999

Manager, Creative Services/Events

Created and executed events strategy and lead generation programs for growing ERP and e-

- Produced regional and national meetings and sales events along with accompanying media for up to 1000 attendees.

<p>commerce software company including physical and Web-based seminars, sales meetings, and customer conferences. Facilitated video production and corporate identity program creation and design. Directed graphic and print production of marketing materials and presentations. Produced general sessions for meetings.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developed online and print-based marketing materials and media during company name change. • Developed communication materials and helped maintain employee morale through separation of business units and subsequent sale.
<p><i>Geac (now Infor, formerly Dun & Bradstreet Software, Atlanta, GA) 1993-1999</i> Manager, Internal/Executive Communications, 1995 –1997; Communications Consultant, 1993 –1995</p> <p>Consulted with CEO and other senior executives to develop company messaging, identity, speeches and presentation materials. Managed communications function for 2000 employees worldwide.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintained high quality communications environment through multiple changes in executive leadership, restructurings and downsizings. • Skilled communicator and writer with success in bridging the gap between different audiences and interest groups.

Memberships

- American Academy of Religion
- American Teilhard Association
- International Association for the Study of Dreams
- Zygon Center Religion & Science Student Society (2009-2011)

Volunteer Service

- Section Chair (Transformation through the Arts) and Planning Committee member, 2015 International Whitehead Conference (“Seizing an Alternative: Toward an Ecological Civilization”), Claremont, CA, 2014-2015.
- Senior Producer and Leadership Committee member, Mythic Imagination Institute (501c3) and Mythic Journeys Conferences, 2002-2009. Managed production and AV for large conference and performance festival on myth/story, religion, psychology, spirituality and the arts; helped to set direction for the organization, develop new goals and ideas, and determine strategy; Atlanta, GA, 2003-2009.