Curriculum Vitae

Tazim R. Kassam  
Associate Professor, Emeritus   
Department of Religion  
Syracuse University

**SPECIALIZATION**

*Discipline*: History of Religions  
*Specialization*: Islam, Islamic Art & Literature, Hinduism, South Asian Religions

**EDUCATION**

Ph.D, *summa cum laude*, 1993 Faculty of Religious Studies, McGill University, Montreal, Canada.  
B.A. Joint Honors, *magna cum laude*, 1984 Philosophy and Religion.   
Hindustani Vocal Classical Music Diploma, 1982 Department of Music University of Bombay, India

**AREAS OF TEACHING**

Islamic Studies (History, Texts, Gender, Mysticism, Literature, Shi’ism).   
Religions and Philosophies of India (Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism).  
The Study of Religion (Theory and Critical Methods, Ritual, Aesthetics).

**EMPLOYMENT HISTORY**

2000-25 Associate Professor, Syracuse University, Islamic Studies & Religion

2008 Founder & Director, Muslim Cultures, London Study Abroad Program

2006-08 Chair, Department of Religion, Syracuse University

2002-04 Director, Graduate Studies Program, Department of Religion

1997-00 Associate Professor, Colorado College, Islam and South Asian Religions

1991-97 Assistant Professor, Middlebury College, Islamic Studies and Religion

1989-91 Instructor, Central Michigan University, South Asian & Islamic Studies

**AWARDS, GRANTS, HONORS**

Mellon Humanities Corridor Foundation Grant*, Syracuse University, 2007-2009.* “Religion and Culture” cluster with Cornell and Rochester on religions in a global framework.

Luce Foundation Grant, Syracuse University*, 2006-2009.* Co-PI curriculum development on "Religion, Media and International Relations." Amount awarded to program: $375,000

Institute of Ismaili Studies, Visiting Fellowship, 2002. Contemporary Muslim Thinkers.

Mellon Foundation Grant*, Jun-Aug 1996* Intensive Summer Arabic, University of Chicago

National Endowment for the Humanities*, 1994-95.* College Teachers and Independent Scholars Fellowship

American Academy of Religion/Lilly Endowment*, 1993-94.* Teaching Workshop, Wellesley College

Faculty of Religious Studies, McGill University*, 1992.* Dean's Honor List for Ph.D

Institute of Ismaili Studies Fellowship*, 1990.* Ginan Manuscripts, London

Social Science Research Council*, 1988.* Muslims in the Contemporary World, Oxford

Institute of Ismaili Studies Scholarship*, 1983-1985.* Research, London and Bombay

Henry Birks Award*, 1984.* B.A. McGill University, Highest GPA (3.9)

Shastri Indo-Canadian Fellowship*, 1979-1982.* Indian Classical Music, Bombay University

**PUBLICATIONS**

*Books:*

Kent, Eliza F & Tazim R Kassam, ed., **Lines in Water: Religious Boundaries in South Asia**. Syracuse: Syracuse University Press: 2013.

Kassam, Tazim R. & Francoise Mallison, ed., **Ginans: Texts and Contexts. Essays on Ismaili Hymns from South Asia in Honor of Zawahir Moir**. New Delhi: Matrix Press, 2010. Reprint Ratna Sagar Press, 2011. Includes CD of devotional hymns.

Kassam, Tazim R., **Songs of Wisdom and Circles of Dance: Hymns of the Satpanth Ismaili Saint, Pir Shams**. New York: State University of New York Press, 1995.

*CD & DVD of Ginans:*

“Daily Prayers of Ismaili Muslims.” DVD of Recitations by Mukhi Rahim Kassam Jivraj. Produced and edited by Tazim Kassam. ExoMedia Productions, 2005.

“Mowla Mowla!” CD Recording of Ginans (Ismaili Hymns) by Rahim, Tazim and Al- Karim Kassam Jivraj. Jacket notes includes transliterations and translations by Tazim Kassam. DMS Productions, 2003.

*Articles & Chapters:*

“The Living Tradition of Ismaili Ginans: Negotiating Cultures in Poetry and Performance” in **Lines in Water: Religious Boundaries in South Asia**, Kassam & Kent, editors, Syracuse: Syracuse University Press, 2013.

“Reframing Ginanic Studies: Thoughts on Multiple Positions and Interpretive Tropes” **Ginans: Texts and Contexts**: Essays on Ismaili Hymns from South Asia in Honor of Zawahir Moir, ed. by Tazim Kassam and Francoise Mallison. New Delhi: Matrix, 2010, 1-20.

“Jamat Khanas of the Ismaili Muslims in North America,” **Encyclopedia of Muslim American History***,* Edward Curtis, editor. Facts on File, 2010.

“Signifying Revelation in Islam,” **Theorizing Scriptures: New Critical Orientations** to a Cultural Phenomenon, ed. Vincent Wimbush. New Jersey: Rutgers University, 2008, 29-40.

Round table “Mapping Feminist Histories” by Margaret Miles in **Journal of Feminist Studies in Religion**. Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2006, vol. 22, no. 1, 59-67.

“Salat,” in **Encyclopedia of Religion** (2nd Edition, 15 vols.), editor-in-chief Lindsay Jones. New York, MacMillan Reference: 2005, 8054-8058.

“Balancing Acts: Negotiating the Ethics of Scholarship and Identity,” **Identity and the Politics of Scholarship** in the Study of Religion, ed. Sheila Devaney & Jose Cabezon, New York: Routledge, 2004, 133-161.

“On Being a Scholar of Islam: Risks and Responsibilities,” **Progressive Muslims: on Gender, Justice and Pluralism**, ed. Omid Safi, Oxford: OneWorld, 2003, 191-215*.*

“The Aga Khan Development Network: An Ethic of Sustainable Development and Social Conscience,” **Islam and Ecology: A Bestowed Trust**, eds. Richard Foltz, Frederick Denny, & Azizan Baharrudin, Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2003, 477-496.

“Teaching and Learning in Religious Studies,” **Teaching Islam in the Liberal Arts**, ed. Brannon Wheeler, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2003, 191-215.

“The Daily Prayer (du'a) of the Ismaili Muslims,” **The Religions of the United States in Practice**, ed. Colleen McDannell, Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2001, vol. 2, 32-44.

“Shahid,” **Harper's Dictionary of Religion**, Gen. ed. Jonathan Z. Smith, American Academy of Religion, Harper & Row Publishers: 1995.

“Syncretism on the Model of Figure-Ground: A Study of Brahma Prakash,” **Hermeneutical Paths to the Sacred Worlds of India**, ed. Katherine Young, Scholars Press: 1994, 231-242.

*Community Journals:*

“Prabha Atre’s Music is the Voice of the Soul,” Souvenir Issue on Dr. Prabha Atre (in Hindi), Published by Akhil Bharatiya Gandharva Mahavidyala Mandal, 2020.

“Ethics and Aesthetics in Islamic Arts,” **The Ismaili USA**, March 21, 2006, 5-8.

“Andalusian Journal,” **The Ismaili USA**, December 2003, pp. 10-12.

“Paradigmatic Women in the Ginan Literature of the Satpanth Ismailis,” **Hikmat**, vol. III:6 (July 1992) 23-29.

“American Muslims and Received Images of the Prophet,” **Hikmat**, III: 4 (July 1990), 15-23.

“Music and Dance Workshops: A Canadian Showcase,” **Bansuri**, vol.5 (1988), 32-36.

“The Great Mystical Philosopher Ibn al-Arabi's Metaphysics of Being**,” Ilm**, (Dec 1985), 11- 23 [reprinted in Hikmat, (March 1986), 25-30.]

“A Study in the Nature of Prophecy and its Interpretation in Islam,” **Ilm**, (March 1979), 10- 22.

**EDITOR-IN-CHIEF, Spotlight on Teaching: (2001-2009)**

*Spotlight on Teaching* is a biannual supplement in Religious Studies News published by the *American Academy of Religion*.

“Teaching is an aspiration not an encumbrance,” Editorial, Spotlight on Teaching, *Religious Studies News*, May 2009.

“Signifying (on) Scripture: Text(ures) and Orientations,” Guest ed. Vincent L. Wimbush, Vol. 23, No. 3, May 2008.

“Diversifying Knowledge Production: The Other within Christianity,” Guest ed. Zayn Kassam, Vol. 22, No.4, October 2007.

“Religion, Media, and Teaching Religion,” Tazim Kassam, Vol. 22, No. 3, May 2007.

“Teaching Difficult Subjects,” Guest ed. Cynthia Humes, Vol. 21, No.4, October 2006.

“Reflections on a Teaching Career in Religion,” Guest ed. Ed Mooney, Vol. 20, No. 4, October 2005.

“Embracing Disability in Teaching Religion,” Guest ed. Kerry Wynn, Vol. 20, No. 3, 2005.

“Teaching and Site Visits,” Tazim Kassam & Joyce Fluekinger, Vol. 19, No. 4, October 2004.

“Teaching about Religions, Medicines and Healing,” Vol. 19, No. 3, May 2004.

“Teaching about Religion and Violence,” Vol. 18, No. 4, October 2003.

“Teaching about Religion and Material Culture,” Vol. 18, No. 3, May 2003.

“Teaching Religion and Music,” Guest Editor, Tazim R. Kassam, Vol. 16, No. 3, May 2001.

**WORKS IN PROGRESS**

“The Garbis of Pir Shams: Manuscripts and Textual Analysis,” Occasional Papers, Institute of Ismaili Studies.

“Enlightening Hymns: Sacred Songs of Shia Ismaili Muslims.” Special issue of *Religion* titled “Tuning into the Sacred: Music and Religion” ed. Guy Beck.

“Ginan” and “Khoja” in The Encyclopedia of the Ismailis, I.B. Taurus, London.

“Devotional Literature of Ismaili Muslims in South Asia.” Living Ismaili Traditions Series, Institute of Ismaili Studies (London, UK).

**SELECT CONFERENCE PAPERS & INVITED LECTURES**

“Indic Ismaili theology in the Garbis of Pir Shams.” Middle Eastern Studies Association  
Annual Meeting, November 13, 2024.

“Catalysts of change: affect and embodiment in the religious songs of the Satpanth Ismaili Muslims.” American Academy of Religion, November 19, 2023.

“The Cycle of Sacred Hymns called Garbis of Pir Shams,” Invited lecture, Association of Study of Ginans, November 21, 2021.

“Singing Circles and Dancing Songs” Invited lecture, Sacred Art as a Medium for Inter- Religious Dialogue, Graduate Theological Union, November 13, 2020.

“Rethinking Islamic Studies: Teaching and Best Practices,” American Academy of Religion, Atlanta, November 20, 2015.

“Space, Place and Performance,” Roundtable preconference session, Islam Section, American Academy of Religion, Chicago. November 16, 2012.

“Qur’an in the Modern World,” Workshop discussant, Witherspoon Institute, Princeton, N.J., July 8-13, 2012.

“Celebrating Pluralism in Muslim Literature and Thought,” Keynote Speech, *Milad an-Nabi Celebration of Prophet Muhammad’s Birthday*, H. H. the Aga Khan Council for USA, Austin, Texas, April 5, 2009.

“Music Moves Religion: Islamic Cultures in the Indian Ocean,” International conference, Mellon Corridor Grant, Syracuse University, April 18-21, 2008.

“Qu’ran as Icon: Scripting and Scripturalizing Revelation” *Ray Smith Symposium on Iconic Books*, Syracuse University, October 17-19, 2007.

“In-between Places,” Welcome & Opening Remarks, *Feminism, Sexuality and the Return of Religion*, Ray Smith Symposium, Syracuse University, April 26-28, 2007.

“Humanities, Humanity, and Hope,” *Small World, Big Divides: Building Bridges in a World of Extremes*, International Summit on Peace, Syracuse University, October 18, 2006.

“The Kite Runner,” *Convocation Speech*, class of 2010, Syracuse University, August 25, 2006.

“Ismaili Jamatkhanas: Negotiating Space, Ritual, and Identity since Aga Khan III,” co- authored with Rizwan Mawani, *From Cyber to the Grave: Islamic Spaces Beyond the Mosque*, Study of Islam Section, *American Academy of Religion*, Washington D.C., November 16-21, 2006.

“Prayers and Rituals of the Shi’a Ismaili Tariqah,” *Prayer and Worship in Jewish, Christian, Islamic, and Sikh Traditions*, Dharma Association of North America, Washington D.C., November 19, 2006.

“Women in Muslim Societies” & “Devotional Ismaili Traditions in South Asia.” *Alumni Workshop Lectures*, Institute of Ismaili Studies, June 2005.

“Envisioning New Directions in Ginanic Studies,” Opening and Concluding Remarks, *2nd International Conference on Ginan Literature*, Suarashtra University, Rajkot, India, November 18- 21, 2004.

“Islamic Scripture as Living Tradition,” *Special Topics Forum: Ethnic and Minority Scholars and the Relation between the Study of Religion and the Study of Scripture*, American Academy of Religion, San Antonio, November 19-22, 2004.

“Signifying Revelation in Islam,” *Theorizing Scriptures*, Institute for Signifying Scriptures, Claremont Graduate University, Claremont, February 26-28, 2004.

“A Third Space: The Creative Religious Encounter of Identity and Difference in the Ismaili Ginans,”*Ray Smith Symposium, Drawing a Line in Water: Religious Boundaries in South Asia*, Syracuse University, April 1-3, 2004.

“History, Historiography & a Survey of Scholarship on Islamic History,” (three lectures),

*International Training Program for Teaching Religion*, Institute of Ismaili Studies, London August 10-15, 2002.

“A Primer on Islam,” *Panelist on The University Forum: A Global Response to Terrorism, Some Origins of the Crisis,* Syracuse University, October 4, 2001.

“Memory and Story-telling: Learning from Haroun,” *Respondent for panel on Bridging Times: Politics of Memory and Myth in North India,* Religions of South Asia Section, *American Academy of Religion*, Nashville, November 18-22. 2000.

“Transgressing Boundaries, Reconfiguring Identities,” *Conference on Scholarship, Identity & the Study of Religion*, Iliff School of Theology, Denver, May 8-9, 2000.

“Islam: Myths and Realities,” *Teachers as Scholars*, 2-day teaching workshop for K-12 Teachers, The Colorado College, April 20-21, 2000.

“Poetry, Persecution and the Politics of Identity: Ismaili Muslim strategies for surviving religious marginalization,” *Campus Interviews*, Syracuse University, December 5, 1999

“The Perils and Promises of Identity: Transformation of a Muslim Minority,” *Inaugural L. J. Kutten Lecture in Philosophy and Religion*, Claremont McKenna College, March 29, 1999.

“Projections of Contemporary Ismaili Identity,” *Middle Eastern Studies Association*, Chicago, December 6, 1998.

“Healing in Islam,” Comparative Studies Section, *American Academy of Religion*, Orlando, November 20-24, 1998.

“Language and Reality: Some Problems with Teaching and Studying Islam as a Religion,” Perspectives in Islamic Studies, *Institute of Ismaili Studies*, London, August 21-24, 1998.

“What is Islamic about Islamic Architecture?” *Southeast Asia Faculty Seminar*, Kenyon College, June 19, 1998.

“The Aga Khan Development Network’s Ethic of Sustainable Development,” *Conference on Islam and Ecology, Center for the Study ofWorld Religions,* Harvard University, May 7- 10, 1998.

“Linguistic, Disciplinary and Cultural Conundrums of Teaching Islam,” *International Workshop on Integrating Islamic Studies into the Liberal Arts Curricula*, University of Washington, Seattle, March 5-7, 1998.

“Hidden Agendas: The Ascetic Impulse in Women’s Spirituality,” Asceticism Group, *American Academy of Religion*, San Francisco, November 22-25, 1997.

“The Teacher’s Life and Vocation,” *AAR and Lilly Foundation Consultation on Teaching Religion and Theology*, Santa Fe, April 18-20, 1997.

“The Rituals of Singing among the Satpanth Ismaili Muslims,” Study of Islam Section, *American Academy of Religion*, New Orleans, November 23-26, 1996.

“The Devotional Hymns of the Shia Muslims in India,” *Study of Asia Series*, Marlboro College, Marlboro, April 28, 1995.

“The Uses of Ambiguity in the Teachings of the Satpanth Ismaili Pirs,” *Shaping Indo-Muslim Identity in Pre-modern India Workshop*, Duke University, Durham, April 20-23, 1995 (by invitation only).

“The Electronic Journal: A Gateway to the Foreign,” Academic Study & Teaching of Religion Section, *American Academy of Religion*, Chicago, November 19-22, 1994.

“Technology-Assisted Tolerance,” *Interface 1993: 18th Humanities and Technology Annual Conference*, Atlanta, October 21-23, 1993.

“Symbols and Metaphors of the Spiritual Quest in Islam,” Guest Lecture, Department of Religion, *University of Vermont*, Burlington, April 29, 1993.

“The Oral-Textual Interface in Popular Islamic Narratives and Ritual Performances,” Study of Islam Section, *American Academy of Religion*, San Francisco, November 21-24, 1992.

“Paradigmatic Women in the Indian Vernacular Literature of the Satpanth Ismailis,” Study of Islam Section, *American Academy of Religion*, Kansas City, November 23-26, 1991.

“Freedoms at the Fringe: Ismaili Strategies for Surviving Religious Marginality,” *Society for the Scientific Study of Religion*, Pittsburgh, November 7-9, 1991.

“Agents of Religious Change in South Asian Islam: The Enigmatic Pir Shams—Holy Man or Wholly Myth?” Study of Islam Section, *American Academy of Religion*, New Orleans, November 17-21, 1990.

“Hindu-Muslim Syncretism: The Figure-Ground of Textual Meaning,” Round Table Session, *American Academy of Religion*, Chicago, November 19-22, 1988.

“Syncretism or Synthesis: The Narrative Ginans of Pir Shams,” Study of Islam Section, *American Academy of Religion*, Boston, December 5-7, 1987.

“Syncretism on the Model of Figure-Ground: A Study of Brahma Prakash,” *Conference on Hindu Syncretism*, Carleton University, Ottawa, November 29-December 1, 1985.

***Public Scholarship, Community Lectures & Interviews***

“Splendid suns and sons,” Introduce Khaled Hosseini, award-winning author of The Kite Runner and A Thousand Splendid Suns, The Rosamond Gifford Lecture Series at the Civic Center, Syracuse, October 6, 2009.

Television Interview by Brian Taffe on *Capital Tonight* on President Obama’s speech “On a New Beginning” delivered at Cairo University, Cairo, Egypt, on June 4, 2009.

“On a New Beginning,” President Obama’s Speech, “Pluralism of Thought and Practice in Islam,” Women Transcending Boundaries, Syracuse, February 10, 2008.

“Afghani Music and Dance,” Introduction to Noor Woodjuatt Ensemble, Syracuse University Symposium on the Imagination, August 27, 2006.

“Understanding Religious Diversity in Islam,“ United Methodist Church Adult Forum, Syracuse, May 7 and 14, 2006.

“Islam: An Abrahamic Tradition,” OASIS Institute, Learning for Mature Adults Forum Adults, October 7, 2006.

“Islamophobia,” Diversity and Democratic Culture Group, Chancellor Nancy Cantor’s ad hoc committee, May 1, 2006

“Journeys in Spiritual Islam,” *Journey into Openness Lecture Series*, Inter-Religious Council of Central New York, Syracuse, February 12, 2004.

“Gender in the Islamic World: Multiple Perspectives,” *University NeighborsLecture Series*, Wescott Community Center, Syracuse, October 26, 2003.

Interview by Dr. Deepak Mehta in November 2004 at 2nd International Congress on Ginans held at Saurasthra University, Rajkot, India. Interview published in Mumbai Samachar, Bombay, December 2, 2004 (in Gujerati),

Interview by Rajkot Gujerati Newspaper, November 2004 at 2nd International Congress on Ginans at Saurasthra University, Rajkot, India.

“Urgent Measures: Making the Islamic World Comprehensible,” Keynote Address, *Conference of Ismaili Leadership*, Calgary, June 28, 2002.

“Contexts of Faith: Muslim Minorities in North America,” Ismaili Tariqah & Religious Education Board, Ottawa, June 23-25, 2000.

“The Language of Devotion: Gesture, Metaphor and Sentiment in Indian Religious Life,” Ismaili Religious Education Board, Bombay, February 4, 1995.

“Women in Islam,” and “Living as Ismaili Women,” Lifestyles and Values Series, Ismaili Religious Education Board, Toronto, April 30 - May 1, 1993.

“Gender Identity in Islam,” Gender Issues: Together in Partnership Series, Ismaili Muslim Council, Vancouver, Mar 19, 1993.

“A Thinking Islam: Intellectual Inquiry as the Basis for Religious Adaptation,” Keynote Address, Ismaili Religious Education Board, Calgary, May 15-16, 1992.

“Creating Intellectual Freedom to deal with Religious Issues in North America,” Keynote Speech, Ismaili Religious Education Board, Vancouver, October 6-8, 1990.

“Articulating a Role for Women in Contemporary Ismaili Leadership,” Plenary Address, Ismaili Muslim Council for Canada, Toronto, September 2, 1990.

“The Tradition of Leadership in the Ismaili Tariqah,” Keynote Speech, Ismaili Religious Education Board Canada, Vancouver, July 14, 1990.

“Teaching the Ethics of Islam,” Keynote Speech, Ismaili Religious Education Board Canada, Vancouver, Nov. 14, 1989.

“American Muslims and Received Images of their Prophet,” Ismaili Muslim Council, Celebration of Prophet’s Birthday (Mawlid), Montreal, October 15, 1989.

**Manuscript Reviews:**

2023 Association of Ginanic Studies, *The Poetry of Seyyida Imam Begum*, ed. Shiraz Pradhan.

2023 Journal of Islamic Ethics “An Ethical Approach to Creating Gardens Inspired by Qur’anic Narratives”

2012 Syracuse University Press, *Public Life in Private Space* by Lana Peshkova.

2011 Penn State University Press, *“Understanding Miracle Stories in the Qur’an”* by Isra Yazicioglu.

2009 University of North Carolina Press, “*Imitable Exemplars: Gender and Vernacular in South Asian Shi’i Hagiography”* by Karen Ruffle.

2004 Wilfred Laurier Press, *“Sacred Sound: Music in World Religions”* by Guy Beck.

2003 University of South Carolina Press, *“Morocco’s Mystical Chanter Tradition: The Interface of Memory, Music, and Religion in an Islamic Community,”* by Earle Waugh.

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE 2000- Syracuse University**

*Courses:*

*Undergraduate:*

• Introduction to Islam / Discovering Islam  
• Enchanting Words: Islamic Literatures  
• Religious Auto/Biography  
• Muslim Women’s Voices  
• Beauty in Islam: Islamic Arts and Aesthetics   
• Muslim Poets and Storytellers  
  
*Graduate:*

• Gender in Muslim Societies  
• Muslim Rituals & Performances  
• Diversity in the Islamic World  
• Religion, Ritual and Music in South Asia  
• Hermeneutics of the Qur’an

**1997-00 Colorado College**

*Courses:*• Introduction to Religion   
• The Islamic Tradition   
• The Hindu Tradition  
• Sufism: The Mystical Tradition of Islam\*  
• Women, Religion and Society (cross-cultural)   
• Religious Music in Judaism and Islam (co-taught with Ofer Ben-Amots, Music Department)  
• Women and Gender in Islam  
• Devotion Divine: Saints and Bhakti Poetry, Drama and Music in India   
• Arts, Religion and Culture of Bali (Summer Session in Bali)

**1991-97 Middlebury College**

*Courses:*• Introduction to Religious Meaning   
• The Islamic Tradition   
• The Hindu Tradition  
• Women in Islam  
• Sufism: The Mystical Tradition of Islam  
• Shi'ism: Esoteric Islam  
• Islam in America  
• Islam in Local Contexts  
• For the Love of God: Islamic Arts, Music and Architecture

**1989-91 Central Michigan University**

*Courses:*• Islam  
• Introduction to Religion   
• Religions of India

**1985-89 McGill University**

*Courses:*• Hinduism and Buddhism (TA)  
• Religions of the Far East and Islam

**TEACHING WORKSHOPS & COURSES**

*Project Big Chalk*, Faculty Media & Computing Services, Syracuse University, 2006

*Internet for Educators*, School of Education, Syracuse University, 2005

*William P. Tolley Teaching Workshop,* Syracuse University, 2001 – 2005

*Teaching & Learning Center Workshop,* The Colorado College, 1998

*Enhancing Teaching with Technology Mini-Conference,* The Colorado College, 1997

*AAR - Lilly Foundation Workshop on Teaching,* Wellesley College, 1993

*Learning Technologies for Educators,* Cornell University, 1992

*Learning to Teach and Teaching to Learn,* Middlebury College, 1992

*High Tech for Higher Education,* Central Michigan University, 1990

**PROFESSIONAL SERVICE, ADVISORY BOARDS & APPOINTMENTS**

Chairperson, Board of Governors, Association of the Study of Ginans, 2023-25

Editorial Board, Postscripts: A Journal of Sacred Texts and Contemporary Worlds (2004-) Elizabeth Castelli, editor. Equinox: London.

Editorial Board, Contemporary Islam, Ronald Lukens-Bull, ed. (2007-) Springer: Heidelberg

**Completed Appointments:**

Reviewer, Collaborative Grants (2020), National Endowment of the Humanities

Advisory Board, (2005-2014) Book Series on Signifying (on) Scriptures, Vincent Wimbush, editor

Editorial Board, Journal of Feminist Studies in Religion (2005-2010), Elizabeth Schusler Fiorenza, editor. Harvard Divinity School: Cambridge

Chairperson, Department of Religion, (2006-2008) Syracuse University

Director, Muslim Cultures Program, Syracuse University Abroad, London

Member of Abrahamic Initiative Advisory Board, Chautauqua Institution (since 2006).

Member of Advisory Board (since 1999), Forum on Religion and Ecology.

Member of Advisory Board (since 2006), Future of Minority Studies.

Editor-in-Chief (2002 - 2011), Spotlight on Teaching, American Academy of Religion.

Member of Teaching and Learning Committee (2002-2008), American Academy of Religion.

Member of Editorial Board (1998-2007), Journal of the American Academy of Religion.

Co-Chair, Religions of South Asia Section (2004-7), American Academy of Religion.

Director, (2002-2004) Graduate Studies Program in Religion, Syracuse University.

Co-Chair, Study of Islam Section (1994-2000), American Academy of Religion

Member of Steering Committee (1998-2001), Women and Religion Section, AAR.

President (1999-2000), AAR/SBL Rocky Mountain – Great Plains Region.

Vice-President and Program Chair (1998-1999), AAR/SBL Rocky Mountain –Great Plains Regional Conference, Colorado College in April 1999.

Advisory Committee (1997-1998), Islam and Ecology Conference, Harvard University.

Member, National Board (1993-1996), Aga Khan Foundation USA.

Member, National Board (1987-1996), Ismaili Tariqah and Religious Education Board, USA.

Training Consultant (1995), Islam in Southeast Asia, Marlboro College.

Member of Steering Committee (1992-1994), Study of Islam Section, AAR.

Editor-in-Chief (1987-1993), Hikmat Magazine, Canada.

External Evaluator (1988), Festival of Indian Dance and Music, Raga Mala Performing Arts Society of Canada.

Seminar Co-ordinator(1984-1988), Series on the Study of Religion at Institute of Islamic Studies and Faculty of Religious Studies, McGill University.

Manager, USA & Canada Concert Tour (1983), North Indian Classical Vocalist Prabha Atre.

**APPOINTMENTS, COMMITTEES AND SERVICE**

**Syracuse University (2000-**

2022/24 Member, Undergraduate Committee, Department of Religion  
2020 Member Search Committee, Islamic Studies  
2012/15 Member, Undergraduate Committee, Department of Religion  
2015 Scholarship Report, Ahmed al-Meguid, 3rd Yr Review, Department of Religion   
2011/12 Member, Faculty Council  
2007/08 Founding Director, Muslim Cultures Program, London, SU Abroad

2006/08 Chair, Department of Religion  
Faculty Council, Humanities Council, HSM Chairs  
Religion and Society Program, ex-officio  
Faculty Liason, Dr. Eboo Patel, University Lecture Series   
Member, Mellon Grant Religion & Culture Committee

2005/06 Meredith Teaching Award Committee  
Search Committee, History Department, Middle East   
Evaluation for Tenure Review, Vivian May  
Muslim Cultures Proposal Committee

2004/05 Luce Foundation Grant Application Committee   
Maxwell - Chautauqua Collaboration Committee

2001/02 Hendricks Chapel Advisory Board  
Chair, Advisory Committee on Faculty Development

Reviewer, Syracuse University Fulbright Awards Committee   
Senior Search Committee, Religion

Executive Committee, Religion  
Middle East Studies Advisory Board (since 2002)

2002/04 Executive Committee, Religion   
Ray Smith Symposium Committee

Religion & Society Proposal Committee  
Search Committee, Fine Arts, Ethnomusicology

2000/01 Search Committee, Religion   
Search Committee, Fine Arts

Faculty Associate, South Asian Studies Program, (since 2000)   
Women Studies Program Advisory Board (since 2000)