

The Dawe Lecture - March 23, 2017, 7:30 - 9 p.m. - Lake Chapel on the Richmond campus.

Comparative Learning: Judaism, Christianity and the Word - World Relation.

Currently, much of American society is awash with anxiety. Democrats and Republicans alike sit on the edge of their seats waiting and wondering what Donald Trump will do in the first 100 days of his presidential term. Arguably, much of this anxiety is rooted in the current breakdown in civil discourse as rhetoric overrides reason in news feed, in twitter communiques and social media outlets. In this vacuum, sentiment and prejudice thrive at the expense of a vibrant discourse of rights and the democratic processes needed to properly care for the needs of all members of our society. How can our religious traditions help repair the health of our civil discourse? How can we garner the wisdom of our Jewish and Christian traditions to guide us in restoring a rational and judicious political process? In her lecture, **Dr. Randi Rashkover** will present a picture of Jewish and Christian comparative learning which, as an exercise in discerning the Word-World relation can contribute to this much-needed societal task.

Dr. Randi Rashkover is Associate Professor of Religious Studies, Director of Judaic Studies and Director of Graduate Studies at George Mason University. She is the author of *Revelation and Theopolitics: Barth, Rosenzweig and the Politics of Praise* (T&T Clark, 2005) and of *Freedom and Law: A Jewish-Christian Apologetics* (Fordham University Press, 2011). She is the editor of several volumes including *Liturgy, Time and the Politics of Redemption* (Wm. B. Eerdmans, 2006) and most recently, *Judaism, Liberalism and Political Theology* (Indiana University Press, 2014). Dr. Rashkover's area of expertise includes Jewish philosophy, Jewish-Christian theological relations and Jewish political thought. Her articles have appeared in a number of leading journals including, *Modern Theology*, the *Journal of Jewish Thought and Philosophy*, and the *Journal of Scriptural Reasoning* among others. She is currently, together with Professors Peter Ochs and Stanley Hauerwas, senior editor of the Stanford University Press book series entitled, "Encountering Traditions." Dr. Rashkover lives in the Washington DC suburbs with her husband and her teenage daughter.



The Dawe Lecture series is funded through The Donald and Nancy Dawe Fund for Emotional and Ethical Growth. The Fund was established thanks to a generous gift from Dr. Coleman Longan honoring Donald and Nancy Dawe. Dr. Dawe was professor emeritus of Union Presbyterian Seminary until his death in 2012.

The lecture series, which is held annually at Union Presbyterian Seminary, pays tribute to Dr. and Mrs. Dawe and promotes ethical and religious understanding. Because of Professor Dawe's long-standing interest and commitments in the area of multi-religious and multi-cultural

understanding and interfaith dialogue, this lecture series seeks to contribute to deepened awareness and insight in these areas of intellectual and especially practical religious concern.

This lecture is free and open to the public; registration is not needed.