The background features a complex geometric pattern of overlapping triangles in shades of dark blue, teal, and maroon. A white archway is superimposed over the center of the image, framing the text.

SYMPO_{SIA}

*An intersection of
Conversation & Innovation*

The Seattle School
OF THEOLOGY & PSYCHOLOGY

*“Earth’s crammed with heaven, and every common bush
afire with God.” – Elizabeth Barret Browning*

Welcome.

I’m deeply grateful you are here for The Seattle School’s annual Symposia. And I have this to say: lucky you. The names and presentations collected in these pages reflect some of the most beautiful people I know in the world, and they are alumni of this institution. They situate themselves in the middle of humanity’s pain, joy, catastrophe, wonder, and goodness all while suffering for what Alexander Schmemmann calls, “the life of the world.”

Today, nearly two dozen alumni have returned from around the globe to present their work in the world. Lean forward as you listen. If you do, I believe you will get a taste of their innovativeness and their passion to learn; you will be inspired by their curiosities and their courage to explore; and you’ll be challenged by their deep compassion, compelling them to live for stories greater than their own. Ultimately, I believe you will leave today having engaged a body of work that offers a taste of hope and, therefore, a call forward to each of us and all of us together.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Steinke', with a stylized, looping flourish extending to the right.

Paul D. Steinke

Vice President of Student & Alumni Development

SCHEDULE

TIME	M ₃	SMALL CLASSROOM	LARGE CLASSROOM
12:00-12:15			Introduction
12:20-12:40	Amber Englund	Susan McDonald*	Jeremy Dew
12:50-1:10	Doug Wheeler	Jennifer Wagner	Carrie Cates
1:20-1:40	Richard Kim	Cheryl Bowman	Susan Hall
1:50-2:10	Krista Law		Annette Schuster*
2:15-2:45			Presenter Panel
2:45-3:00	BREAK	BREAK	BREAK
3:00-3:20	Rebecca Joy Sumner	Erin & Stephen Mitchell*	Randall Ajimine
3:30-3:50	Nathan Hollifield	Kimberly Miller	Doug Shirley,* Daniel Tidwell, and KJ Swanson
4:00-4:20	Christine Hutchison	Robin Crosby	Heather Stringer
4:30-5:00			Presenter Panel

* Presenting via webcast

RESTORED BEHAVIOR

3rd floor gallery featured art by Tiffany Danielle Elliott & Rachel Telian



Tiffany Danielle Elliott (MATC '15) currently works as an artist in Seattle, WA. She has a BA in Studio Art from The University of North Carolina at Wilmington, and graduated with a Masters of Theology and Culture from The Seattle School in 2015. Her background in painting and photography greatly informed a trajectory toward her current medium, performative image. Combining painting, photography, and

video to curate installations into interactive performances, her intrigue in the dual impact of the female body in any given space guides her visual and experiential communication.

Email: T.danielle.elliott@gmail.com

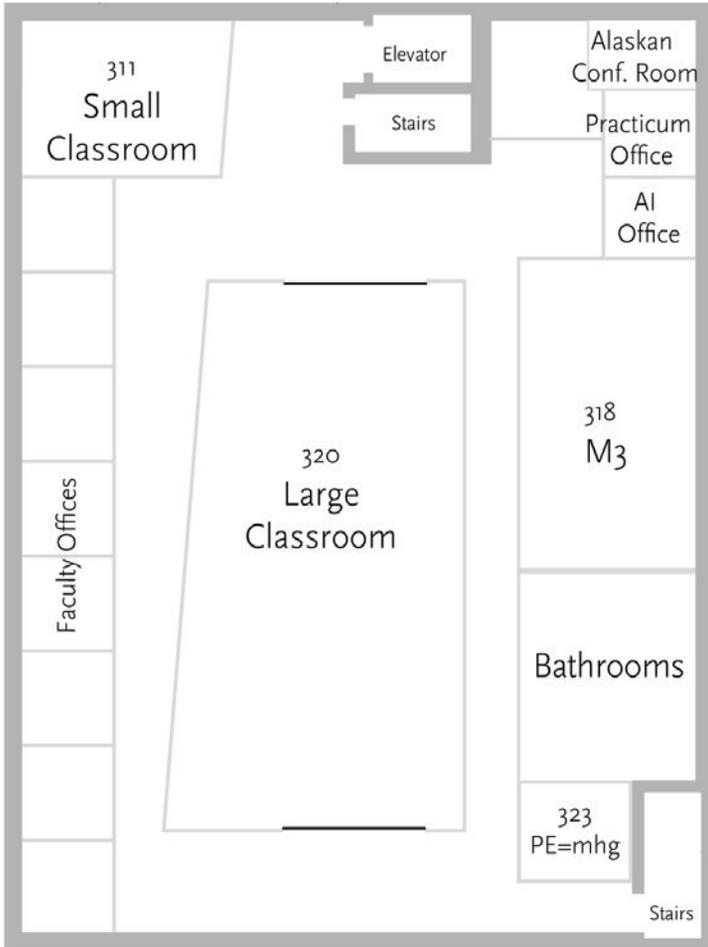
Website: tiffanydanielleelliott.com



Rachel Telian (MATC '15) is an artist living in Seattle, WA. She holds a BAs in Comparative Literature and Art History from Indiana University, and graduated with a MA in Theology and Culture from The Seattle School in 2015. She uses her love of language, literature and theological writing as an inspiration and starting point for her artistic practice, exploring the interrelationship of image and word. She loves

working with varying genres of text and attempting to metabolize them visually as a way to understand the text more fully.

Email: rachel.telian@gmail.com



The Seattle School is thrilled to be partnering with Varvid for Symposia 2016. They specialize in webcasting and live streaming and because of their talent and skill, the immensely valuable content of this event will be made accessible to our alumni and network unable to attend the event in-person.

Website: varvid.com

Community Transformation Through Intentional Space and Wonder-Filled Play



Amber Englund (MACP '15) is an infant/early-childhood mental health therapist practicing in community mental health. She provides home and office-based parent-child psychotherapy that supports the relationship of caregiver and child in its context. In practice, Amber brings a history of work in child development, speech and language sciences, community development, cooperative business, food, art, and a love for creating beautiful and playful spaces that invite laughter and reflection.

Email: englund.amber@gmail.com

The Healing Power of Lament: Writing in Trauma Focused Groups



Annette Schuster (MAC '04) works in private practice with adults who invite her into their stories of confusion, trauma, loss, and despair. She is a lover of story and nothing brings more joy than walking into and wrestling with the agony and seemingly hopeless destruction in the lives of her clients who choose to fight through the messy terrain of their life stories until new life begins to grow. Nothing brings her more sorrow than the pandemic level of sexual abuse that is perpetrated on children throughout the world by those who are meant to love, care for, nurture, and protect them. Annette works with church leaders, parents and children with the goal of reducing the risk of sexual abuse for the children under their care. She also works with church leaders desiring to serve post-conviction, registered sex offenders in their church using a model from COSA (Circles of Support and Accountability). Annette was ordained through her local church and performs weddings and funerals.

Annette is a mother of 3 adult daughters, the grandmother of 5, and most recently became a great-grandmother. She loves autumn, cool weather, cloudy and rainy days, writing, reading, time spent with family and friends, and road trips.

Email: annette4kids@gmail.com

Phone: 623.206.7844

To Enlarge & Estrange: How Theater Can Do Theology



Carrie Cates is a 4th year MDiv/MATC student and a Seattle theater artist with a special focus on original works. Her work focuses on theology-through-art, theater, and death and dying. Carrie's next project is taking her original play, *The Snare*, to the world's largest theater festival in

Edinburgh, Scotland in 2017. In her spare time, Carrie is also a martial artist and the mandolin player in the singalong cover band *Bones of My Foremothers*.

Email: cates.carrie@gmail.com

Website: carrianncates.weebly.com

Other Articles: theseattleschool.edu/author/catesc

Operationalizing the Dream: It's the Journey—Not the Destination



Cheryl Bowman (MACP '13) has established her focus as a therapist to enlighten understanding, increase awareness, and facilitate transformation in relation to self and others. She views therapy as an art of the soul, guided by theory, infused with intuition, and as unique as each person who chooses growth within meaningful interpersonal relationships. Cheryl works at an Eating Recovery Center, she has a private practice, and owns Time2Live LLC, a sober living community for those in recovery. Cheryl enjoys her grandchildren, exploring beach towns on the back of a harley, and finding MCM treasures.

Email: clbowman777@gmail.com

Personal and Professional: How to Find Your Authentic Voice in a World of Pop Psychology Writing



Christine Hutchison (MACP '11) is a doctoral student, therapist, writer, and editor of *Psyched* in San Francisco Magazine. She lives in San Francisco, kinda by accident, and in the words of Brandi Carlile, is “taking the hard way home” back to the Pacific NW (eventually). Christine recently published a book of essays called *Turning Inward: Essays on Finding God in Female Sexuality*, and her Mom said she liked it. Christine believes that all therapists are also writers, and loves helping clinicians find their voices, and get them heard beyond the office walls.

Email: chutchison@hushmail.com

Website: christinehutchison.com

Engendered Research: Embodying What We Study



Doug Shirley (MDiv '06, EdD*) recently finished his doctoral dissertation entitled “Shame, Gender Role, and Alexithymia in Men in Spiritual Authority.” He is launching a follow up study on the intimate relationships, help-seeking behaviors, and practices of self-compassion in those same men. Doug is a husband of 12 years to Laura Wade Shirley, and a father to three boys: Noah (9), Luke (7), and Eli (3). Doug recently became core faculty in the Counseling Program at The Seattle School. He has an active counseling practice with offices in lower Queen Anne and Woodinville, specializing in couples work and the integration of mental health and spirituality.

Email: dshirley@theseattleschool.edu

Website: dougshirleyresearch.com



Daniel Tidwell (MDiv '10) is a Doctor of Ministry candidate at Seattle University, concentrating his research in the area of spiritual direction. In addition to his work as Alumni Programs Coordinator at The Seattle School, he practices as a Spiritual Director in Seattle, working with artists, LGBTIQ people, and those exploring faith outside their religious tradition of origin.

Email: dtidwell@theseattleschool.edu

Website: danielctidwell.com



Kj Swanson (MDiv '10) recently submitted her dissertation, reading the fiction of Charlotte Brontë in light of feminist theology, as part of the final phase(s) of her doctoral research at the University of St Andrews, UK. Currently serving as an adjunct professor of theology and culture at the Seattle School, Kj is also working with instructional staff members as Assistant Instructor Coordinator. Regarding research, Kj has published and presented papers exploring pop culture media such as Harry Potter, Disney, Marvel, and Twilight from theological and feminist perspectives, including a forthcoming article in *The Journal of Religion and Popular Culture* on the religious vocabulary of *The Hunger Games* soundtracks. Whilst Kj may have left part of her heart in Scotland, she could not be happier to be home again in Seattle.

Email: kswanson@theseattleschool.edu

Navigating the Masculine Journey with ‘Sherpas’ Nouwen, Jung, and Peck



Doug Wheeler (MAC ‘87*, PhD*) has been a practicing psychotherapist for twenty eight years and for the last five years he has worked primarily with men. Doug lives in Woodinville with his wife of twenty seven years and his beloved Jack Russell terrier. His two adult sons are currently making their way in the world by filmmaking and music. Doug has dedicated the second half of his life to his truth that all people are loved by God and have an innate need to be who they are in the world.

Email: dougwheelertherapy@gmail.com

Website: tenderrockcounseling.org

Bearing Witness: Loss and the Church, a Couple’s Experience of Miscarriage



Erin (MACP ‘09) and Stephen Mitchell, along with their two boys, live in Denver, CO. They are both therapists who work in private practice. Their work focuses on developing a rich integration between psychology and theology within the church.

Email: erin@denvercounselingandwellness.com

stephen@denvercounselingandwellness.com

Website: denvercounselingandwellness.com

Blog: cfha.net/blogpost/753286/229818/Giving-voice-to-what-has-been-lost

Breaking Frozen Seas: How Rituals of the Body Transform Clients and Communities



Heather Stringer (MACP '10) is a mental health therapist with a BFA in painting. She has been creating performance art over the last decade and recently began leading rituals for people wanting to mark specific events in their lives. Heather has a lovely husband named Jay, a bright son named Amos Muir and a shy, yet fiery daughter named Iona Kennedy.

Email: Hmariestringergmail.com

Website: thecounselingcollaborative.com

Instagram: [@make_rituals](https://www.instagram.com/make_rituals) & [@hmariestringerg](https://www.instagram.com/hmariestringerg)

Healing Trauma Through Movement: A Look Into Northern Uganda



Jennifer Wagner (MACP '15) has worked in Gulu, Uganda since 2009. She graduated from The Seattle School in 2015, and for the last two years she has been running a research study with Ashley Zimmerman to assess how movement and dance can be used therapeutically in Northern Uganda to bring counseling and rehabilitation for survivors of war. Jennifer is a Practicum facilitator at The Seattle School, and she has a private practice in Eastlake. Jennifer and Ashley continue to go back to Uganda in order to study and introduce concepts of movement and dance therapeutically.

Email: jennifer@jwcssseattle.com

Website: jenniferwcounseling.com

Practical Parenting: When Good Enough Is Good Enough, Even For the Trained Professional as Parent



Jeremy Dew (MACP '10) initially focused his therapeutic work with children, adolescents, and their families.

Since moving to Texas in the recent years, his work has more primarily focused on supporting parents around effective strategies for parenting and attachment, as well as navigating the more awkward, saucy conversations of love, sex, and relationships with kids through childhood and adolescence. As a therapist and now parent of 3 kids, he has learned that these two roles dramatically impact one another, when he is doing them right. Jeremy has found that his life is most consumed, personally and professionally, with learning to let these two selves not just co-exist, but encourage and inform each other.

Email: jeremy@oakwoodcounseling.com

Website: bcspacticalparenting.com & jeremydew.com

Facebook: facebook.com/BCSpracticalparenting

Awakening to Justice: An Unexpected Turn in a Vocational Journey



Kimberly Miller (MAC '05) is a therapist in private practice in Everett, WA. Her passion and calling in providing individual therapy was summarily halted by a long and painful journey through the darkness of her own debilitating bipolar disorder. Her story is ultimately a story

of finding a greater calling in the ashes of lost dreams. Now, she works not only with individuals and families devastated by mental illness, but also advocates for justice and change. She lives a life of openness and authenticity that has swung open doors of influence she could never have dreamed of back in 2005.

Email: kimberly.miller.office@gmail.com

Website: trailheadtherapy.com

Facebook: facebook.com/trailheadtherapy

Phone: 425.312.3137

Metaphor in Psychotherapy: A Bridge Between Thinking & Feeling



Krista Law (MACP '12, MACS '13) is happy to be a Seattle transplant from Colorado. Utilizing both of her graduate degrees, she is a therapist in private practice in Green Lake, Seattle, and also actively participates in leadership by preaching and teaching at her local church. A wife and a mother of two, Krista enjoys all the adventures this wonderful city has to offer her and her family.

Email: info@kristalaw.com

Website: <http://www.kristalaw.com>

Blog: www.3therapistswalkintoablog.com

Dying with Grace



Nathan Hollifield (MACS '10, MDiv*) is the pastor of Fircrest United Methodist Church and the strategic dreamer and founding architect of Create Commons, a radically inclusive faith community that exists to live out the compassionate heart of God in Tacoma. His passion in ministry is creating and leading incarnational communities that ignite the social and spiritual renewal of the city. Nathan is a 2010 Masters of Christian Studies graduate of The Seattle School and a 2016 Masters of Divinity graduate of Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary.

Email: nathanhollifield@gmail.com

Articles: thenewsribune.com/news/local/article26352088.html

The Surprisingly Intimate Relationship Between Marriage Equality and Purity Culture



Randall Ajimine (MDiv '13) was born and raised in Honolulu, Hawaii before he moved to Seattle in 2006. He has been thinking and writing about the church and how it thinks and talks about sexuality for over a decade and enrolled at The Seattle School in 2008 to continue that work. He has spoken at a number of events put on by the Thank God for Sex project and is currently working on a book that will propose a more sex-positive Christian sexual ethic.

Email: RandallA808@gmail.com Facebook: facebook.com/RandallA808

Blog: Flavorandillumination.wordpress.com Twitter: [@RandallA808](https://twitter.com/RandallA808)

All Means All: The Exquisite Beauty and Excruciating Cost of Living and Leading God's Welcome of All People



Rebecca Joy Sumner (MDiv '08) is a new mom, wife, pastor, spiritual director, abolitionist, liturgist, and neighbor. Rebecca is currently working with her husband, Luke, on a new church start in with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in her hometown of Everett, WA.

Prior to this new adventure in cultivating church, Rebecca served as Program Director for a Quaker nonprofit in Portland, OR. Before that, she pastored an arts-based Quaker church start in the Midtown neighborhood of Sacramento, CA. In addition to staff positions with churches and nonprofits, Rebecca has done consulting and volunteer work with many faith organizations such as Parish Collective, Wild Goose West, Church of the Beloved in Edmonds, Church of the Apostles in Seattle, and others. She has a Master of Divinity from The Seattle School of Theology (2008) and Psychology, a Master of Arts in Religion from Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary (2005), and earned her Bachelor of Arts from Seattle Pacific University (2002).

Email: rebecca@ourcommontablechurch.org

Website: reccasumner.com & www.ourcommontablechurch.org

Twitter: [@rebeccajsumner](https://twitter.com/rebeccajsumner)

Instagram: [@rebeccajsumner](https://www.instagram.com/rebeccajsumner)

Facebook: facebook.com/rebeccajsumner

The Enduring Myth: Identity in the Age of Misrecognition



Richard D Kim (MDiv '11) is a husband and father. He currently works as the Intercultural Credibility Coordinator/Consultant at The Seattle School of Theology & Psychology, a unique role engaging categories of culture and identity in the formational development of pastors, therapists, artists and leaders. Richard hopes to continue to engage the church, theological schools, and higher ed institutions to help better engage and integrate categories of culture and identity into ministry, curriculum and community life.

Email: rkim@theseattleschool.edu

Twitter: [@rdkim](https://twitter.com/rdkim)

Facebook: facebook.com/rdkim80

Lovers Dance: Embodying Intimate & Erotic Presence



Robin Crosby (MACP '08, Certificate of Spiritual Direction) has been married to Jim Crosby for 31 years. Her life's work has consisted of raising 7 special needs adopted kids, teaching parents of At-Risk-Youth for almost 6 years (serving 50+ adolescents), and private practice since 2008 (SnohomishCounseling.com). Robin's interests include travel, photography, backpacking, culinary arts and hospitality. She is also a cinema junkie (viewed 14 films in 2 weeks at SIFF this year). Robin's greatest professional passion is helping individuals and couples grow into solid people who live with integrity, function well, establish and maintain meaningful and fulfilling relationships, as well as become successful in their marriage, parenting, career, ministry and special interests. Her primary specialty is integrating sex therapy, spiritual intimacy and forming a collaborative alliance with couples.

Email: rcsnohomishcounseling@gmail.com

Website: SnohomishCounseling.com

Blog post: snohomishcounseling.com/sexual-help

An Anguish Transformed: My Use of Buddhist Psychology to Overcome Prolonged Suffering



Susan Hall (MACP '00, DMin*) is a grateful graduate of the second class to graduate from The Seattle School (then Mars Hill Graduate School). Since graduation, she has opened several therapy-related businesses from her counseling practice and commercial real estate for counselors to co-founding Seattle Therapy Alliance, a low-cost counseling and intern-training organization. More recently, Susan is happily focused on enjoying life with her husband and five year old son.

Email: susan@susanhall.com

Website: susanhall.com

Reflections from a Cross Cultural Missional Worker in Africa and Asia: Engaging in Contemplative Practice as a Traveling Therapist and Deep Listener



Susan McDonald (MATC '09) has been a missional worker based in Africa since 2003 where her counselling skills and compassion have carried her well to serve other field workers and individuals in ministry in Africa and Asia. A widow, mother of three, and grandmother to seven, Susan spends part of her time each year in the USA to be with family and upgrade her learnings, occasionally connecting with the The Seattle School community. Susan's personal interests include reading, hiking, and photography.

Email: susan.mcdonald@sim.org

Website: SIM.org

Facebook: facebook.com/susan.mcdonald.3591267

LinkedIn: linkedin.com/in/susan-mcdonald-10059357



The Seattle School
OF THEOLOGY & PSYCHOLOGY