

CHAIR OF CHRISTIAN THOUGHT

The Christian community of Calgary enjoys a diverse, lively and faithful dynamic. The Chair of Christian Thought at University of Calgary has been an important contributor to this dynamic in recent years. It serves as a resource and catalyst in promoting Christian Thought within Calgary and bridges the world of Christian scholarship and Calgary communities of faith.

The current Chairholder is Dr. Douglas Shantz, who has held the position since 1999. He completed his PhD in Reformation history at the University of Waterloo in 1987. Dr. Shantz's research and publications examine Spiritual Autobiography, Millenarianism, attitudes towards Muslims and Jews, and the place of Alchemy and Enlightenment thought among early modern German Protestants. He is also a Western Religions professor in the Department of Religious Studies.



Through a series of annual public lectures, the Chair offers presentations by outstanding scholars of international stature who provide a Christian perspective on matters pertaining to Christian Thought and contemporary cultural issues. Christian leaders are enriched by presentations which are designed to motivate the audience toward intellectual and spiritual enhancement. By maintaining a non-sectarian, non-partisan position, the Chair brings Calgary's Christians together in a welcoming setting that provides a reflective approach to Christianity.

Additionally, one of the most significant aspects of the Chair's role is the supervision of graduate students, preparing those who will one day become the next generation of Christian scholars. The Chair offers scholarships to attract and support graduate students in the area of Christian Thought.

The Chair is funded through an endowment made possible by generous donors and churches over the years. An endowment is a charitable purpose trust that is held and invested by the university; only the interest income is used to fund activities in perpetuity. We are currently working to reach the \$3.5M goal which is needed to fully fund the Chair of Christian Thought.

THE LEGACY CIRCLE

The Legacy Circle program provides a portion of the funds which supports the public lecture series and graduate student scholarships.

Through an annual contribution of \$1,000 or more, you will become a member of the Legacy Circle and receive a tax receipt for the amount donated as well as recognition on the Legacy Circle poster displayed at each public lecture.

Your support will greatly benefit the Calgary Christian community and the academic study of Christian Thought.

www.ucalgary.ca/christchair

HOW TO GIVE

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RELIGIOUS STUDIES at the UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY

The Department of Religious Studies at the University of Calgary promotes an open, non-denominational examination of the world's great spiritual traditions. Courses in Western and Eastern religions emphasize the historical development of the global religions, introducing students to their scriptures and describing their main institutions and beliefs. Courses in the Nature of Religion provide opportunities for reflection on the nature and function of religion as well as the psychology of individual believers. Comparative analysis and the study of new religious movements also play a part in the attempt to understand religion and its place in the contemporary world.

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