



## Hester Gelber

Professor of Religious Studies and, by courtesy, of German Studies, Emerita

 Curriculum Vitae available Online

### Bio

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#### BIO

Hester Gelber specializes in late medieval religious thought. She has taught courses on philosophy of religion as well as medieval Christianity. She has written extensively on medieval Dominicans, including: *Exploring the Boundaries of Reason: Three Questions on the Nature of God* by Robert Holcot OP and most recently *It Could Have Been Otherwise: Contingency and Necessity in Dominican Theology at Oxford 1300-1350*. She has now retired.

Professor Gelber received her Ph.D. in History from the University of Wisconsin in 1974 and has taught at Stanford since 1978, beginning as a part-time lecturer in Philosophy before moving to Religious Studies in 1982.

#### ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- Emeritus Faculty, Acad Council, Religious Studies

#### ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS

- Professor Emerita, Department of Religious Studies, Stanford University, (2015- present)
- Professor, Department of Religious Studies, Stanford University, (2006-2015)
- Chair, Department of Religious Studies, Stanford University, (2010-2013)
- Teacher's Assistant, Integrated Liberal Studies, University of Wisconsin-Madison, (1966-1968)
- Research Assistant, University of Wisconsin-Madison, (1968-1969)
- Lecturer, University of Santa Clara, History Department, (1974-1974)
- Lecturer, Stanford University, Philosophy Department, (1978-1982)
- Assistant Professor, Department of Religious Studies, Stanford University, (1982-1990)
- Associate Professor, Department of Religious Studies, Stanford University, (1990-2006)
- Director of Graduate Studies, Department of Religious Studies, Stanford University, (1986-1988)
- Director of Graduate Studies, Department of Religious Studies, Stanford University, (1991-1993)
- Director of Graduate Studies, Department of Religious Studies, Stanford University, (1997-2002)
- Director of Graduate Studies, Department of Religious Studies, Stanford University, (2005-2006)
- Director of Undergraduate Studies, Department of Religious Studies, Stanford University, (1995-1995)
- Department Chair, Department of Religious Studies, Stanford University, (2006-2009)
- Department Chair, Department of Religious Studies, Stanford University, (2010-2013)

## HONORS AND AWARDS

- Fellowship, Ford Foundation (1967)
- Fellowship, Ford Foundation (1968)
- Fellowship, American Council of Learned Societies (1985 - 1986)
- Fellowship, Stanford Humanities Center (1988 - 1989)
- Fellowship, Stanford Humanities Center (2004 - 2005)
- Coglan Fellow in Religious Studies, Stanford University (1990 - 1992)
- University Medal, University of Helsinki (1994)
- John and Lydia Pearce Mitchell University Fellow, Bass University (2004 - 2009)
- John and Lydia Pearce Mitchell University Fellow, Bass University (2009 - 2014)
- Hoagland Award, Stanford University (2007 - 2008)

## BOARDS, ADVISORY COMMITTEES, PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

- Member, American Cusanus Society
- Member, Medieval Academy of America
- Member, Medieval Association of the Pacific
- Member, American Academy of Religion
- Member of the Council, Medieval Association of the Pacific (1984 - 1987)
- Member of the Council, Medieval Association of the Pacific (1996 - 1999)
- Member, Council for the American Society of Church History (1990 - 1993)
- Member, Individually Designed Major Committee, Stanford University (1982 - 1984)
- Member, Individually Designed Major Committee, Stanford University (1990 - 1991)
- Chair, Individually Designed Major Committee, Stanford University (1983 - 1984)
- Member, Western Culture Program Committee, Stanford University (1984 - 1985)
- Member, Western Culture Program Committee, Stanford University (1986 - 1988)
- Member, CIV Program Committee, Stanford University (1988 - 1991)
- Member, Stanford Humanities Center Advisory Board, Stanford University (1994 - 1998)
- Member, Stanford Humanities Center Advisory Board, Stanford University (2003 - 2006)
- Member, Stanford Humanities Center Advisory Board, Stanford University (2004 - 2005)
- Member, Stanford Humanities Center Advisory Board, Stanford University (2006 - 2009)
- Member, Stanford Humanities Center Supplementary Advisory Committee, Stanford University (1990 - 1994)
- Member, Committee on Medieval Studies, Stanford University (1982 - 1985)
- Member, Committee on Medieval Studies, Stanford University (1989 - 1998)
- Chair, Committee on Medieval Studies, Stanford University (1994 - 1995)
- Member, Graduate Committee for Humanities Special Programs, Stanford University (1990 - 1996)
- Member, Mellon Fellow Postdoctoral Fellowship Selection Committee, Stanford University (1989 - 1991)
- Member, Mellon Fellow Postdoctoral Fellowship Selection Committee, Stanford University (1995 - 1996)
- Member, Danforth-Compton Graduate Fellowship for Minorities Selection Committee, Stanford University (1989 - 1991)
- Chair, Danforth-Compton Graduate Fellowship for Minorities Selection Committee, Stanford University (1990 - 1991)

- Member, Taskforce on Undergraduate Education at Stanford, Stanford University (1991 - 1992)
- Member, Ad-hoc Humanities Planning Group, Stanford University (1991 - 1992)
- Faculty Resident Fellow--Twain House, Stanford University (1991 - 1995)
- Member, Advisory Committee for Continuing Studies, Stanford University (1992 - 1994)
- Member, Whiting, Lurcy and Danforth-Compton Graduate Fellowship Selection Committee, Stanford University (1992 - 1993)
- University Grievance Officer, Stanford University (1993 - 1993)
- Member, Faculty Senate, Stanford University (1993 - 1993)
- Member, Faculty Senate, Stanford University (1993 - 1994)
- Member, Faculty Senate, Stanford University (2003 - 2004)
- Member, Senate Steering Committee, Stanford University (2003 - 2004)
- Vice-chair, Faculty Senate, Stanford University (2003 - 2004)
- Member, Budget Advisory Group for Residential Education, Stanford University (1993 - 1993)
- Member, Sub-Committee on the Calendar, Stanford University (1994 - 1994)
- Member, Mabelle McLeod Lewis Graduate Fellowship Selection Committee, Stanford University (1993 - 1995)
- Member, Senate Committee on Academic Achievement and Appraisal (C-AAA), Stanford University (1995 - 1996)
- Chair, Senate Committee on Academic Achievement and Appraisal (C-AAA) (1997 - 1999)
- Member, Stanford Centre in Oxford, Stanford University (1996 - 1996)
- Sexual Harassment Advisor, Stanford University (1997 - 2001)
- Member, H & S 50th Anniversary Celebration Proposals--Selection Committee, Stanford University (1997 - 1998)
- Member, The Institute for Research on Women & Gender- Fellows Selection Committee, Stanford University (1998 - 2000)
- Member, Stanford Humanities Center Selection Committee, Stanford University (1998 - 2000)
- Member, Stanford Humanities Center Selection Committee, Stanford University (2002 - 2003)
- Member, Stanford Humanities Center Selection Committee, Stanford University (2006 - 2007)
- Member, Maryilyn Yalom Research Fund Selection Committee, Stanford University (2000 - 2001)
- Member, Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies (C-US), Stanford University
- Chair, Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies (C-US), Stanford University (2000 - 2002)
- Chair, C-US-C-USP Sub-Committee on General Education Requirements, Stanford University (2000 - 2003)
- Ex-officio, Undergraduate Advisory Council to the Vice-Provost on Undergraduate Education, Stanford University (2000 - 2002)
- Ex-officio, Undergraduate Advisory Council to the Vice-Provost on Undergraduate Education, Stanford University (2007 - 2008)
- Ex-officio, Area One Governing Board, Stanford University (2000 - 2002)
- Ex-officio, Area One Governing Board, Stanford University (2007 - 2008)
- Panelist, Stanford Judicial Affairs Faculty, Stanford University (2000 - 2002)
- Member, Advisory Committee to the Master of Liberal Arts program, Stanford University (2001 - 2007)
- Member, Stanford Sexual Harassment Policy Advisory Group, Stanford University (2001 - 2002)
- Member, Awards Committee for the Arnice P. Streit Service of Excellence Award and the H & S Dean's Award of Merit for H & S staff, Stanford University (2001 - 2002)
- Director, Medieval Studies, Stanford University (2001 - 2003)
- Faculty Associate Director, Overseas Studies Program, Stanford University (2002 - 2004)
- Faculty Resident Fellow, Castano, Stanford University (2004 - 2008)
- Member, Senate Committee on Undergraduate Standards and Policy (C-USP), Stanford University (2005 - 2008)

- Member, Senate Committee on Undergraduate Standards and Policy (C-USP), Stanford University (2011 - 2014)
- Chair, Senate Committee on Undergraduate Standards and Policy (C-USP), Stanford University (2007 - 2007)
- Chair, Senate Committee on Undergraduate Standards and Policy (C-USP), Stanford University (2007 - 2008)
- Chair, Sub-Committee on Exceptions to Educational Policy, Stanford University (2007 - 2008)
- Chair, Sub-Committee on General Education Requirements, Stanford University (2007 - 2008)
- Chair, Sub-Committee on General Education Requirements, Stanford University (2011 - 2012)
- Chair, Sub-Committee on ROTC, Stanford University (2011 - 2013)
- Member, Ethical Reasoning Oversight Board, Stanford University (2005 - 2013)
- Member, Bing Overseas Studies Program Executive Committee, Stanford University (2005 - 2009)
- Member, School of Humanities and Sciences, Appointments and Promotions Committee, Stanford University (2007 - 2008)
- Member, Humanities and Sciences Chairs Steering Committee, Stanford University (2007 - 2008)
- Member, Senate Ad-hoc Committee on ROTC, Stanford University (2010 - 2011)
- Chair, S-ROTC (2011 - 2013)
- Director of Department Colloquia, Department of Religious Studies, Stanford University (1984 - 1985)
- Director of Department Colloquia, Department of Religious Studies, Stanford University (1994 - 1995)
- Chair of Search Committee for position in Hebrew Bible, Department of Religious Studies, Stanford University (1990 - 1991)
- Chair of Search Committee for position in Religious Ethics, Department of Religious Studies, Stanford University (1995 - 1996)
- Chair of Search Committee for position in Islamic Studies, Department of Religious Studies, Stanford University (2005 - 2006)
- Chair of Search Committee for position in American Religion, Department of Religious Studies, Stanford University (2008 - 2008)

## PROGRAM AFFILIATIONS

- Feminist, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

## PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

- Ph.D., University of Wisconsin-Madison , Medieval History (1974)
- M.A., University of Wisconsin-Madison , Medieval History (1967)
- B.A., Cornell University , History (medieval focus) (1965)

## Publications

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### PUBLICATIONS

- **Laughter and Deception: Holcot and Chaucer Stay Cheerful** *Uncertain Knowledge*  
Gebler, H.  
edited by Bose, M., Copeland, R., Denery, D., Ghosh, D., Zeeman, N.  
Brepols.2014
- **Blackfriars London: The Late Medieval Studium**, *Philosophy and Theology in the 'Studia' of the Religious Orders and at Papal and Royal Courts*  
Gebler, H.  
edited by Emery Jr, K., Courtenay, W. J., Metzger, S. M.  
2012
- **Providence** *The Cambridge History of Medieval Philosophy*  
Gebler, H.  
edited by Robert, R.  
Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.2010: 761–722

- **Blackfriars London: The Late Medieval Studium**  
Gebler, H.  
2008: 165–80
- **Medieval modal systems: problems and concepts. (Book Review)** *ARCHIV FUR GESCHICHTE DER PHILOSOPHIE*  
Book Review Authored by: Goodenough Gelber, H.  
2006; 88 (2): 232-236
- **Robert Holkot** *Encyclopedia of Philosophy*  
Gebler, H.  
Farmington Hills, MI: Thomson Gale.2005; 2
- **It Could Have Been Otherwise: Contingency and Necessity in Dominican Theology at Oxford 1300-1350**  
Gelber, H.  
Leiden: Brill.2004
- **Walter Burley's 'On the Purity of the Art of Logic': The shorter and longer treatises (Book Review)** *SPECULUM-A JOURNAL OF MEDIEVAL STUDIES*  
Book Review Authored by: Gelber, H. G.  
2003; 78 (4): 1258-1259
- **Metamorphosis and identity (Book Review)** *JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF RELIGION*  
Book Review Authored by: Gelber, H. G.  
2002; 70 (4): 893-896
- **Seeds of virtue and knowledge (Book Review)** *SPECULUM-A JOURNAL OF MEDIEVAL STUDIES*  
Book Review Authored by: Gelber, H. G.  
2002; 77 (2): 557-558
- **Robert Holkot (Holcot)** *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*  
Gebler, H.  
2001
- **Revisiting the Theater of Virtue** *Franciscan Studies*  
Gebler, H.  
2000; 58: 19-36
- **MARSILIUS-OF-INGHEN - DIVINE KNOWLEDGE IN LATE MEDIEVAL THOUGHT - HOENEN,MJF (Book Review)** *SPECULUM-A JOURNAL OF MEDIEVAL STUDIES*  
Book Review Authored by: Gelber, H. G.  
1996; 71 (2): 433-435
- **Seeing the Future Clearly: Quodlibetal Questions on Future Contingents by Robert Holcot**  
edited by Streveler, P. A., Tachau, C., Gelber, H., Courtnay, W. J.  
Toronto: University of Toronto Press.1995
- **THE DILEMMA OF FREEDOM AND FOREKNOWLEDGE - ZAGZEBSKI,LT (Book Review)** *SPECULUM-A JOURNAL OF MEDIEVAL STUDIES*  
Book Review Authored by: Gelber, H. G.  
1994; 69 (1): 280-281
- **William Ockham** *Faith and Philosophy*  
Gebler, H.  
1990; 7: 246-252
- **Eternal Questions--The Dominican Hugh of Lawton on the Eternity of the World** *Knowledge and the Sciences in Medieval Philosophy*  
Gebler, H.  
1990: 71–78
- **Ockham's Early Influence: A Question about Predestination and Foreknowledge by Arnold of Strelley, OP** *Archives d'histoire doctrinale et litteraire du moyen age*

- Gebler, H.  
1988; 55: 255-289
- **THE FALLACY OF ACCIDENT AND THE DICTUM-DE-OMNI, LATE MEDIEVAL CONTROVERSY OVER A RECIPROCAL PAIR** *VIVARIUM-AN INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL FOR THE PHILOSOPHY AND INTELLECTUAL LIFE OF THE MIDDLE AGES AND RENAISSANCE*  
Gelber, H. G.  
1987; 25 (2): 110-145
  - **HOLY FEAST AND HOLY FAST - THE RELIGIOUS SIGNIFICANCE OF FOOD TO MEDIEVAL WOMEN - BYNUM,CW (Book Review)** *MODERN LANGUAGE QUARTERLY*  
Book Review Authored by: Gelber, H. G.  
1987; 48 (3): 281-285
  - **The Physics of William of Ockham** *Journal of the History of Philosophy*  
Gebler, H.  
1987; 25: 294-296
  - **A Theater of Virtue: The Exemplary World of St. Francis of Assisi** *Saints and Virtues*  
Gebler, H.  
edited by Hawley, J. S.  
Berkeley: University of California Press.1987: 15–35
  - **I Cannot Tell a Lie: Hugh Lawton's Critique of Ockham on Mental Language** *Franciscan Studies*  
Gebler, H.  
1984; 44: 141 - 179
  - **Exploring the Boundaries of Reason: Three Questions on the Nature of God by Robert Holcot, O.P.**  
Gebler, H.  
Toronto: Pontifical Institute of Mediaeval Studies.1983