

CHRISTOPHER P. SCHEITLE

West Virginia University
Department of Sociology
307 Knapp Hall
Morgantown, WV 26506
cpscheitle@mail.wvu.edu

EDUCATION

Ph.D. The Pennsylvania State University, Sociology, August 2008
M.A. The Pennsylvania State University, Sociology, May 2005
B.A. Trinity University, magna cum laude, Sociology and Religion, May 2003

PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS

2015-Current Assistant Professor, West Virginia University
2010- 2015 Adjunct Assistant Professor, St. John's University (MN)
2008-2010 Senior Research Assistant, Penn State University, University Park

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Religion and Science, Religious Discrimination and Victimization, Religious Organizations, Sexuality, Identity

TEACHING INTERESTS

Data Analysis and Social Statistics, Research Methods, Sociology of Religion, Wealth and Poverty

EXTERNAL FUNDING

2018-2020 National Science Foundation. \$162,254 – Principal Investigator for “Religion and the Professional Development of Graduate Students in the Sciences”

2018-2020 National Science Foundation. \$250,000 – Principal Investigator (with Elaine Howard Ecklund) for “Collaborative Research: Religion Related Bias Victimization: Addressing a Blind-Spot.”

2017-2018 Interfaith Diversity Experiences & Attitudes Longitudinal Survey Research Award. \$7,500 – Principal Investigator for “Examining the Worldview Influences of Non-Religious Students.”

2014-2015 National Science Foundation. \$299,369 – Principal Investigator (with Jeff Ulmer) for “Collaborative Research: The Frequency and Patterns of Crime Against Religious Congregations.”

2010-2013 National Science Foundation. \$286,834 – Principal Investigator (with John McCarthy) for “Nonprofit Religious Organizations and Entrepreneurialism.”

2009 Higher Education Research Institute Spirituality in Higher Education Research Award. \$10,000 – Principal Investigator for “Does a Science Education Reduce Religiosity and/or Spirituality?”

BOOKS

- Ecklund, Elaine Howard and Christopher P. Scheitle. 2017. *Religion vs. Science: What Religious People Really Think*. New York: Oxford University Press.
- Scheitle, Christopher P. and Roger Finke. 2012. *Places of Faith: A Road Trip across America's Religious Landscape*. New York: Oxford University Press.
- Scheitle, Christopher P. 2010. *Beyond the Congregation: The World of Christian Nonprofits*. New York: Oxford University Press.

REFEREED ARTICLES

- Scheitle, Christopher P., Katie E. Corcoran, and Erin B. Hudnall. 2019. "Adopting a Stigmatized Label: Social Determinants of Identifying as an Atheist beyond Disbelief." *Social Forces* 97(4): 1731-1755.
- Scheitle, Christopher P. and Sara K. Guthrie. 2019. "Urban Migration of Sexual Minorities in the United States: Myth or Reality?" *Sexuality & Culture* 23(1): 96-111.
- Oberlin, Kaitlin C. and Christopher P. Scheitle. 2019. "Biblical Literalism Influences Perceptions of History as a Scientific Discipline." *Socius* 5(1): 1-10.
- Scheitle, Christopher P. 2018. "Frequency of Contact and Relationship Quality between Places of Worship and the Police." *Policing* 12(4): 410-427.
- Ecklund, Elaine Howard, Christopher P. Scheitle, and Jared C. Peifer. 2018. "The Religiosity of Academic Scientists in the United Kingdom: Assessing the Role of Discipline and Department Status." *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion* 57(4): 743-757.
- Scheitle, Christopher P., Katie E. Corcoran, and Caitlin Halligan. 2018. "The Rise of the Nones and the Changing Relationships between Identity, Belief, and Behavior." *Journal of Contemporary Religion* 33(3): 567-579.
- Scheitle, Christopher P. and Caitlin Halligan. 2018. "Explaining the Adoption of Security Measures by Places of Worship: Perceived Risk of Victimization and Organizational Structure." *Security Journal* 31(3): 685-707.
- Platt, Lisa and Christopher P. Scheitle. 2018. "Sexual Orientation and Psychological Distress: Differences by Race and Gender." *Journal of Gay & Lesbian Mental Health* 22(3): 204-225.
- Scheitle, Christopher P. 2018. "Politics and the Perceived Boundaries of Science: Activism, Sociology, and Scientific Legitimacy." *Socius* 4(1): 1-13.
- Scheitle, Christopher P. 2018. "Religious Congregations' Experiences with, Fears of, and Preparations for Crime: Results from a National Survey." *Review of Religious Research* 60(1): 95-113

- Scheitle, Christopher P. and Elaine Howard Ecklund. 2018. "Perceptions of Religious Discrimination among U.S. Scientists." *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion* 57(1): 139- 155.
- Scheitle, Christopher P. and Caitlin Halligan. 2018. "Explaining the Adoption of Security Measures by Places of Worship: Perceived Risk of Victimization and Organizational Structure." *Security Journal* 31(3): 685- 707.
- Scheitle, Christopher P. and Katie Corcoran. 2018. "Religious Tradition and Workplace Religious Discrimination: The Moderating Effects of Regional Context." *Social Currents* 5(3): 283-300.
- Scheitle, Christopher P. and John D. McCarthy. 2018. "The Mobilization of Evangelical Protestants in the Nonprofit Sector: Parachurch Foundings across U.S. Counties, 1998–2016." *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion* 57(2): 238-257.
- Platt, Lisa F. and Christopher P. Scheitle. 2018. "Sexual Orientation and Psychological Distress: Differences by Race and Gender." *Journal of Gay & Lesbian Mental Health* 22(3): 204- 225.
- Scheitle, Christopher P. and Julia K. Wolf. 2018. "Religion and Sexual Identity Fluidity in a National Three-Wave Panel of U.S. Adults." *Archives of Sexual Behavior*, 47(4): 1085-1094.
- Scheitle, Christopher P. and Jeffrey T Ulmer. 2018. "Profane Concerns in Sacred Spaces: The Challenges and Consequences of Implementing Security Measures in Religious Congregations." *Journal of Applied Security Research* 13(1): 29-44.
- Whitehead, Andrew L. and Christopher P. Scheitle. 2018. "We the (Christian) People: Christianity and American Identity from 1996 to 2014." *Social Currents* 5(2): 157-172.
- Scheitle, Christopher P., David R. Johnson, and Elaine Howard Ecklund. 2018. "Scientists and Religious Leaders Compete for Cultural Authority of Science." *Public Understanding of Science* 27(1): 59-75.
- Scheitle, Christopher P., Erica J. Dollhopf, and John D. McCarthy. 2017. "Spiritual Districts: The Origins and Dynamics of US Cities with Unusually High Concentrations of Parachurch Organizations." *Social Science History* 41(3): 505-532.
- Scheitle, Christopher P. and Julia K. Wolf. 2017. "The Religious Origins and Destinations of Individuals Identifying as a Sexual Minority." *Sexuality & Culture* 21(3): 719-740.
- Howard Ecklund, Elaine, Christopher P. Scheitle, Jared Peifer, and Dan Bolger. 2017. "Examining Links Between Religion, Evolution Views, and Climate Change Skepticism." *Environment and Behavior* 49(9): 985-1006.

- Platt, Lisa F., Julia K. Wolf, and Christopher P. Scheitle. 2018. "Patterns of Mental Health Care Utilization Among Sexual Orientation Minority Groups." *Journal of Homosexuality* 65(2): 135-153.
- Scheitle, Christopher P. and Elaine Howard Ecklund. 2017. "Recommending a Child Enter a STEM Career: The Role of Religion." *Journal of Career Development* 44(3): 251-265.
- Platt, Lisa F. and Christopher P. Scheitle. 2017. "Is Marriage Counseling Perceived as Scientific? Examining the Views of U.S. Adults." *The Family Journal* 25(3): 239-246.
- Scheitle, Christopher P. and Elaine Howard Ecklund. 2017. "Examining the Effects of Exposure to Religion in the Workplace on Perceptions of Religious Discrimination." *Review of Religious Research* 59(1): 1-20.
- Scheitle, Christopher P. and Elaine Howard Ecklund. 2017. "The Influence of Science Popularizers on the Public's View of Religion and Science: An Experimental Assessment." *Public Understanding of Science* 26(1): 25-39.
- Dollhopf, Erica J. and Christopher P. Scheitle. 2016. "Explaining Variation in the Nonprofit Founding Process: Founder and Organizational Factors." *Nonprofit Management & Leadership* 27(2): 261-272.
- Scheitle, Christopher P. and Michelle Hansmann. 2016. "Religion-Related Hate Crimes: Data, Trends, and Limitations." *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion* 55(4): 859-873.
- Ecklund, Elaine Howard, David R. Johnson, Christopher P. Scheitle, Kirstin R.W. Matthews, and Steven W. Lewis. 2016. "Religion among Scientists in International Context: A New Study of Scientists in Eight Regions." *Socius* 2: 1-9.
- Johnson, David R., Christopher P. Scheitle, and Elaine Howard Ecklund. 2016. "Conservative Protestantism and Anti-Evolution Curricular Challenges Across States." *Social Science Quarterly* 97(5): 1227-1244.
- Scheitle, Christopher P. and Amy Adamczyk. 2016. "Divine Callings: Religious Sensemaking in the Organizational Founding Process." *Journal of Management, Spirituality & Religion* 13(2): 94-116.
- [Awarded Best Paper of 2016 by the journal]
- Scheitle, Christopher P. 2016. "Crimes Occurring at Places of Worship: An Analysis of 2012 Newspaper Reports." *International Review of Victimology* 22: 65-74.
- Scheitle, Christopher P., Erica J. Dollhopf, and John D. McCarthy. 2016. "Exploring Religious Congregations' Registration with the IRS." *Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Quarterly* 45: 397-408.
- Scheitle, Christopher P. 2015. "Perceived Competition, Leadership Effort, and Organizational Outreach in Religious Nonprofit Organizations." *Review of Religious Research* 57(2): 287-301.

- Dollhopf, Erica J., Christopher P. Scheitle and John D. McCarthy. 2015. "Initial Results from a Survey of Two Cohorts of Religious Nonprofits." *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion* 54: 156-165.
- Johnson, David R., Christopher P. Scheitle and Elaine Howard Ecklund. 2015. "Individual Religiosity and Orientation towards Science: Reformulating Relationships." *Sociological Science* 2: 106-124.
- Scheitle, Christopher P. and Nicole Cornell. 2015. "Hearing Clergy Speak about Social and Political Issues: Examining the Effects of Religious Tradition and Personal Interest." *Social Science Quarterly* 96: 148-160.
- Dollhopf, Erica J. and Christopher P. Scheitle. 2013. "Decline and Conflict: Causes and Consequences of Leadership Transitions in Religious Congregations." *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion* 52: 675-697
- Smith, Buster, Christopher P. Scheitle and Christopher Bader. 2012. "The Ties that Bind: Network Overlap among Independent Congregations." *Social Science Computer Review* 30: 259-273.
- Scheitle, Christopher P., Jennifer Buher-Kane and Jennifer Van Hook. 2011. "Demographic Imperatives and Religious Markets: Considering the Individual and Interactive Roles of Fertility and Switching in Group Growth." *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*. 50: 470-482.
- Scheitle, Christopher P. and Buster G. Smith. 2011. "A Note on the Frequency and Sources of Close Interreligious Ties." *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion* 50: 410-421.
- Scheitle, Christopher P. 2011. "Religious and Spiritual Change in College: Assessing the Effect of a Science Education." *Sociology of Education* 84: 122-136.
- Scheitle, Christopher P. and Bryanna B. Hahn. 2011. "From Pews to Policy: Specifying Religion's Influence on States' Treatment of Sexual Orientation." *Social Forces* 89:913-934.
- Scheitle, Christopher P. 2011. "U.S. College Students' Perception of Religion and Science: Conflict, Collaboration or Independence? A Research Note" *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*.50: 175-186.
- Scheitle, Christopher P. 2011. "Google Insights for Search: A Note Evaluating the Use of Search Engine Data in Social Research." *Social Science Quarterly* 92: 285-295.
- Scheitle, Christopher P. and Amy Adamczyk. 2010. "High-Cost Religion, Religious Switching and Health." *Journal of Health and Social Behavior* 51:325-342.
- Scheitle, Christopher P., Stephen M. Merino and Andrew Moore. 2010. "On the Varying Meaning of 'Open and Affirming.'" *The Journal of Homosexuality* 57: 1-14.
- Scheitle, Christopher P. and Kevin D. Dougherty. 2010. "Race, Diversity, and Membership Duration." *Sociological Inquiry* 80: 405-423.

Scheitle, Christopher P. 2009. "Leadership Compensation in Christian Nonprofits." *Sociology of Religion* 70: 384-408.

~Winner of the 2007 Association for the Sociology of Religion's Robert McNamara Student Paper Award

Scheitle, Christopher P. 2009. "Identity and Government Funding in Christian Nonprofits." *Social Science Quarterly* 90: 816-833.

Scheitle, Christopher P. and Roger Finke. 2009. "Pluralism as Outcome: The Ecology of Religious Resources, Suppliers and Consumers." *Interdisciplinary Journal of Research on Religion* 5 (Article 7): www.religjournal.com

Scheitle, Christopher P. and Amy Adamczyk. 2009. "It Takes Two: The Interplay of Individual and Group Theology on Embeddedness." *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion* 48: 16-29.

Scheitle, Christopher P. and Roger Finke. 2008. "Maximizing Congregational Resources: Selection versus Production." *Social Science Research* 37: 815-827.

Scheitle, Christopher P. and Kevin D. Dougherty. 2008. "The Sociology of Religious Organizations." *Sociology Compass* 2: 981-999.

Scheitle, Christopher P. and Kevin D. Dougherty. 2008. "Density and Growth in a Congregational Population: Reformed Churches in New York, 1628-2000." *Review of Religious Research* 49: 233-250.

Scheitle, Christopher P. 2007. "Organizational Niches and Religious Markets: Uniting Two Literatures." *Interdisciplinary Journal of Research on Religion* 3 (Article 2): www.religjournal.com

~Winner of the 2007 American Sociological Association's Section on Religion Student Paper Award

Ecklund, Elaine Howard and Christopher P. Scheitle. 2007. "Religion among Academic Scientists: Distinctions, Disciplines, and Demographics." *Social Problems* 54: 289-307.

~Portions Re-Printed in *Evolution vs. Creationism: An Introduction* by Eugenie C. Scott. 2009. Westport, CT: Greenwood Press

Finke, Roger, Matt Bahr, and Christopher P. Scheitle. 2006. "Toward Explaining Congregational Giving." *Social Science Research* 35: 620-641.

Finke, Roger and Christopher P. Scheitle. 2005. "Accounting for the Uncounted: Computing Correctives for the 2000 RCMS Data." *Review of Religious Research* 47: 5-22.

Scheitle, Christopher P. 2005. "The Social and Symbolic Boundaries of Religious Groups: An Analysis of Congregational Website Links." *Interdisciplinary Journal of Research on Religion* 1 (Article 6): www.religjournal.com.

~Winner of 2006 American Sociological Association's Section on Religion Student Paper Award

Scheitle, Christopher P. 2005. "In God We Trust: Religion and Optimism toward Biotechnology." *Social Science Quarterly* 86: 846-856.

Scheitle, Christopher P. 2005. "Bringing Out the Dead: Gender and Historical Cycles of Spiritualism." *Omega* 50: 245-261.

BOOK CHAPTERS

Ecklund, Elaine Howard. 2018. "Scientists." Pages 279-301 in *the Warfare between Science and Religion: The Idea that Wouldn't Die* edited by Jeff Hardin, Ronald L. Numbers, and Ronald A. Binzley. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press.

Scheitle, Christopher P. 2017. "From Documents to Data." Pages 201-226 in *Faithful Measures: New Methods in the Measurement of Religion*. Edited by Roger Finke and Christopher D. Bader. New York University Press

Finke, Roger and Christopher P. Scheitle. 2014. "Sources of Religious Pluralism: Revisiting the Relationship between Pluralism and Participation." Pages 177-190 in *Religions as Brands: New Perspectives on the Marketization of Religion and Spirituality*. Edited by Jean-Claude Usunier and Jorg Stolz. Farnham, UK: Ashgate Publishing.

Scheitle, Christopher P. and Buster G. Smith. 2012. "Religious Affiliation, College Degree Attainment, and Religious Switching." Pages 205-226 in *Research in the Sociology of Work, Volume 23 (Religion, Work and Inequality)* edited by Lisa A. Keister, John McCarthy and Roger Finke. Bingley, UK: Emerald Group Publishing.

Finke, Roger and Christopher P. Scheitle. 2009. "Understanding Schisms: Theoretical Explanations for Their Origins." Pgs. 11-33 in *Sacred Schisms: How Religions Divide*, edited by J.R. Lewis and S. M. Lewis. New York: Cambridge University Press.

Scheitle, Christopher and Amy Adamczyk. 2006. "Campus Crusade for Christ." Pgs. 102-105 in *Youth Activism: An International Encyclopedia*, edited by L. Sherrod, C.A. Flanagan and R. Kassimir. Westport, CT: Greenwood Publishing.

TEACHING PUBLICATIONS

Scheitle, Christopher P. and Kevin D. Dougherty. 2009. "Teaching and Learning Guide: The Sociology of Religious Organizations." *Sociology Compass* 3: 361-366.

Scheitle, Christopher P. 2006. "Web-Based Data Analysis: Creating a Sociological Laboratory." *Teaching Sociology* 34: 80-86.

Finke, Roger, Christopher Scheitle and Amy Adamczyk. 2004. "The American Religion Data Archive: An Online Resource for Teaching and Research." *American Theological Library Association Summary Proceedings*. (21 pages).

BOOK REVIEWS

- Scheitle, Christopher P. 2018. Review of *The Rise of Network Christianity: How Independent Leaders Are Changing the Religious Landscape*. (2017, New York, Oxford University Press). *Sociology of Religion* 78(4): 495-496.
- Scheitle, Christopher P. 2015. Review of *The Deconstructed Church: Understanding Emerging Christianity* (2014, New York, Oxford University Press). *Contemporary Sociology* 44(6): 825-827.
- Scheitle, Christopher P. 2012. "Assessing the State of the Sociology of Religion." Review of *The Oxford Handbook of the Sociology of Religion* (2011, New York: Oxford University Press). *Contemporary Sociology* 41: 155-157.
- Scheitle, Christopher P. 2009. Review of *Passing the Plate: Why American Christians Don't Give Away More Money* (2008, New York: Oxford University Press). *Contemporary Sociology* 38: 316-317.
- Scheitle, Christopher P. 2008. Review of *Marx, Critical Theory, and Religion: A Critique of Rational Choice Theory* (2006, Boston: Brill Academic Publishers). *Sociology of Religion* 69: 364-366.

AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS

- 2007 Robert McNamara Student Paper Award – Association for the Sociology of Religion – "Leadership Compensation in Christian Non-Profit Organizations."
- 2007 Student Paper Award – American Sociological Association's Section on Religion – "Organizational Niches and Religious Markets: Uniting Two Literatures."
- 2006 Student Paper Award – American Sociological Association's Section on Religion – "The Social and Symbolic Boundaries of Religious Groups: An Analysis of Congregational Website Links."
- 2006-2007 Joan Huber and William Form Graduate Scholarship in Sociology — The Pennsylvania State University
- 2006-2007 College of the Liberal Arts Dissertation Support Grant —The Pennsylvania State University

PRESENTATIONS

- Scheitle, Christopher P., Katie E. Corcoran, and Erin B. Hudnall. 2018. "Adopting a Stigmatized Label: Social Determinants of Identifying as an Atheist beyond Disbelief." Annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion and Religious Research Association. Las Vegas, NV.

- Scheitle, Christopher P. 2018. GlobalPlus Dialogue on Religion and Science. Invited address and panel discussion. Penn State University.
- Scheitle, Christopher P. 2017. The Social Scientific Study of Science and Religion: A Convening. Invited workshop. Rice University.
- Corcoran, Katie, Christopher P. Scheitle, and Erin Hudnall. 2017. "Congregational Activities and Experiences with Property Crime." Society for the Scientific Study of Religion/Religion Research Association. Washington D.C.
- Scheitle, Christopher P. and Elaine Howard Ecklund. 2016. "Recommending a Child Enter a STEM Career: The Role of Religion." Public Perceptions of Science and Religion Conference. University of California-San Diego. San Diego, CA.
- Scheitle, Christopher P. and Elaine Howard Ecklund. 2015. "Religion and Parental Encouragement to Pursue STEM." Religious Research Association-Society for the Scientific Study of Religion. Newport Beach, CA.
- Scheitle, Christopher P. and Roger Finke. 2013. "Author Meets Critics: *Places of Faith: A Road Trip across America's Religious Landscape*." Association for the Sociology of Religion Annual Meeting. New York, NY.
- Dollhopf, Erica, Christopher P. Scheitle and John D. McCarthy. 2013. "Accounting for the Early Vitality of New Religious Nonprofit Organizations." Roundtable paper at the American Sociological Association Annual Meeting. New York, NY.
- Scheitle, Christopher. 2012. "Factors Affecting Rates of Spiritual Entrepreneurialism across U.S. Counties." Presentation given at the "Religion in Contemporary Society" conference organized by the Chinese Academy of Social Science and Brigham Young University. Washington, D.C. May 14-15.
- Scheitle, Christopher P. 2011. "Religion, College Degree Attainment and Religious Switching." Stratification and Social Change Conference. Penn State University. University Park, PA.
- Scheitle, Christopher P. 2010. "Parachurch Organizations: The Religious Market's Other Supplier." Invited lecture at Chapman University. February 19.
- Scheitle, Christopher P. 2009. "Does a Science Education Reduce Religiosity and/or Spirituality?" Spirituality in Higher Education Project Research Symposium. Los Angeles, CA.
- Scheitle, Christopher P. 2009. "The Rise, Fall and Rise again of the Parachurch Sector." Association for the Study of Economics, Religion and Culture. Washington, D.C.
- Scheitle, Christopher P. and Roger Finke. 2006. "Maximizing Organizational Resources: Production versus Selection." American Sociological Association Meeting. Montreal, QC, Canada.

Ecklund, Elaine Howard and Christopher Scheitle. 2005. "Religion and Spirituality in the Academy: A Look at Differences between Natural and Social Scientists." Association for the Sociology of Religion Meeting. Philadelphia, PA.

Scheitle, Christopher. 2005. "Linkages and Boundaries: Determinants of Religious Network Formation." Eastern Sociological Society Meeting. Washington, D.C.

Scheitle, Christopher. 2005. "In God We Trust: Religion and Optimism towards Biotechnology." International Association for Science, Technology and Society Meeting. Baltimore, MD.

Scheitle, Christopher. 2003. "The Role of Women in the Proliferation of the Dead in Everyday Life: On the Connection between Gloria Steinem and Casper the Ghost." Southwestern Social Science Association Meeting. San Antonio, TX.

OTHER PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

2015-2018 Board Member for the Religious Research Association

2010-Present Senior Research Associate for The Association of Religion Data Archives

2007-2008: Committee Member for the American Sociological Association's Section on Religion's Student Paper Award

2007-2008: Student Representative for the American Sociological Association's Section on Religion