

**Robert A. Hunt, Curriculum Vitae**

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Born December 15, 1955 in Dallas, Texas.

**Academic Credentials:**

- Ph.D., University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur, 1994.
- M.Th., Southern Methodist University, Perkins School of Theology, 1982.
- B.A. (honors), History, University of Texas, 1977.

**Academic Experience:**

- 2004 – Present: Director of Global Theological Education, Perkins School of Theology, Southern Methodist University.
- 2004 – 2005: Visiting Professor in World Religions, Perkins School of Theology
- 1997- 2004: Adjunct Professor of World Religions and History/International Studies; Webster University, Vienna.
- 1993-1997: Lecturer in Islam, Asian Culture and Religions, and Practical Theology, Director of Continuing Education / Field Education: Trinity Theological College, Singapore.
- 1992-1993: Sabbatical Leave.
- 1990-1992: Adjunct Lecturer in Comparative Religions, Inti College, Subang Jaya, Malaysia.
- 1985-1992: Lecturer in Practical Theology and Comparative Religions, Director of Continuing Education: Seminari Theoloji Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

**Other Professional Experience:**

- 1997-2004: Pastor, English Speaking United Methodist Church of Vienna
- 1980-1984: Associate Pastor; Bethany United Methodist Church, Austin.

**Current Research:**

I am currently researching religious identity in a pluralistic world and related issues related to inter-religious relations, as well as in methods of teaching inter-religious dialogue in a theological seminary setting.

**Publications:**

- **Books**
  - *Muslim Citizens of the Globalized World*, (The Light and IID Press, Somerset, New Jersey, 2006) Robert Hunt and Alp Aslandogan, eds.
  - *Muslim Faith and Values, What Every Christian Should Know*, (New York: GBGM Press, 2003)
  - *Islam in Southeast Asia, A Study Guide for Christians* (Kuala Lumpur: GBGM Press/Methodist Church of Malaysia, 1999)
  - *William Shellabear, A Biography* (Kuala Lumpur: University of Malaya Press, 1995)
  - *Christianity in Malaysia: a Denominational History*, Robert Hunt, Lee Kam Hing, John Roxborough, eds. (Petaling Jaya: Pelanduk Press, 1990)

- **Contributions to Reference Works**
  - “The History of Christianity in Southeast Asia” *Encyclopedia of Christian Civilization*, Blackwell Publishing (2008)
  - “William Shellabear” in *The Oxford Dictionary of National Biography*, Blackwell Publishing (2008)
  - “Changing Issues in the Translation of the Bible in the 19th and 20th Centuries,” and “William Shellabear and the Translation of the Bible into Malay” in *History of Translation in Indonesia and Malaysia*, ed. Henri Loir (Paris: École française d'Extrême-Orient / Jakarta: Yayasan Obor.)
  - “Bible Translation,” in *Encyclopedia of Protestantism*, Hans J. Hillerbrand, ed. (Routledge, 2003)
  - “Modern Mission among Muslims,” in *Christian Mission in the Third Millennium*, ed. Charles Cole, (New York: GBGM Press, 2003)
  - “J.A.B. Cook,” “Covenant of Omar,” “James M. Thoburn,” “Benjamin Keasberry,” “Malacca,” “Stamford Raffles,” “Sino-Japanese War,” “Umar I,” “Umayyad Caliphate,” in *Dictionary of Asian Christianity*, Scott Sunquist, John Chew, and David Wu, eds. (Chicago: Eerdmans, 2001)
  - “Benjamin Peach Keasberry,” “Thomas Beighton,” *Dictionary of Evangelical Biography*, Donald Lewis, ed. (Oxford: Blackwell, 1995)
  - “Samuel Abraham,” “Burr Baughman,” “Thomas Beighton,” “J.A.B. Cook,” “Sophia Cooke,” “Goh Hood Keng,” “Benjamin Peach Keasberry,” “Lucius Mamora (Simamora),” “William F. Oldham,” “Hans Schärer,” “William Shellabear,” in *Biographical Dictionary of Christian Missions*, Gerald Anderson, ed. (New York: Macmillan Library Reference, 1997)
  - “Historical Overview of Christian Social Services in Malaysia,” in *Trends and Challenges in Social Service Today*, (Kuala Lumpur: Council of Churches of Malaysia, 1989)
  - “Historical Overview of Christian Responses to Social Problems in Malaysia,” in *Essays in Honour of David Bohler*, (Kuala Lumpur: Graduate Christian Fellowship, 1988)
- **Articles**
  - “Teaching through Practice, Engaging Divinity Students in Interfaith Dialogue,” in *Pedagogies for Interfaith Dialogue*, ed. David Roozen, accepted for publication in 2009.
  - “Christian Identity in a Pluralistic World” *Missiology* – Accepted for publication in 2009
  - “Reforming American Views of Muslims,” in *World Christianity in Muslim Encounter*, ed. Stephen Goodwin, Continuum International, 2008
  - “A Response to Ng Kam Weng on the prospects of Inter-Religious understanding in Malaysia,” *Annual Lectures of the Center for the Study of Christianity in Asia*, Trinity Theological College, Singapore, scheduled for publication in 2008.
  - “Islam in Austria,” *Muslim World*, Vol. 92, Numbers 1&2, 2002: 115-128.
  - “The Legacy of William Shellabear,” *International Bulletin of Missionary Research*, Vol. 26, No. 1, 2002: 28-31.
  - „Islam und Christentum: Der Staat im Islam,“ *Verhandlungsbericht der 51. Tagung des Exekutivkomitees*, 2000: 67-72.

- „Islam und Christentum: A Brief Guide to the Study of Islam: Anthropology and Soteriology,” *Verhandlungsbericht der 50. Tagung des Exekutivkomitees*, 1999: 61-77.
  - „Islam und Christentum: Revelation,” *Verhandlungsbericht der 50. Tagung des Exekutivkomitees*, 1998: 66-79.
  - “Christian Theological Reflection and Education in the Muslim Societies of Malaysia and Indonesia,” *Studies in World Christianity* (New College, Edinburgh), Vol. 3.2, 1997: 202 - 225.
  - “Inter-religious Conflict and Compromise in Late 19th and Early 20th century Singapore,” *Sejarah* (University of Malaya), No. 4, 1996: 63 - 82.
  - “Individual, Community, State and Perceptions of Human Rights and Religious Freedom,” *Trinity Theological College Journal*, Vol. 4, 1995: 15-30.
  - “Basic Bibliography of Islam in Southeast Asia,” (with Olaf Schumann) *Trinity Theological College Journal*, Vol. 4, 1995: 59 – 66.
  - “The Life of William Shellabear,” *Journal of the Malaysian Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society*, Vol. LXVI, Part 2, 1993: 37 – 72.
  - “Have you not seen a vain vision? The marginalization of the United Methodist Church in Malaysian Society,” *Asian Journal of Theology*, Vol. 5, No. 2, 1991: 410 – 428.
  - “William Shellabear and His Bible,” *Methodist History*, Vol. XXIX, Number 1, 1990: 14 - 20.
  - “The History of the Translation of the Bible into Malay,” *Journal of the Malaysian Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society*, Vol. LXII, Part 1, 1989: 35 - 56.
- **Reviews**

I have published numerous reviews in *Missiology*, *Muslim World*, and *Reviews in Religion and Theology*. I publish short reviews several times a year in the Dallas Morning News.

#### **Past and Present Professional Projects and Engagements:**

- In the last three years I have spoken to several dozen different church and civic groups in Dallas and around the state of Texas about Islam and Muslim-Christian relations, usually in cooperation with leaders from the Muslim community. I have also hosted U.S. State Department visits of Muslim scholars to the SMU campus in the same period, orienting them to the teaching of Islam and Inter-Religious dialogue in a university setting. I have been interviewed for local and national television and radio, the *Footnote* program broadcast by Everest Productions, as well as for the documentary *American Ramadan* broadcast on PBS.
- Participant in “Toward a Global Family: A Buddhist Muslim Dialogue” New York, September 2-4, 2008.
- Participant/Speaker in the World Thanksgiving Assembly II, Dallas, TX July 21 – 23, 2008
- Participant in the World Conference on Dialogue, Madrid, July 2008.
- Member of the SMU Task Force on International Education, (2006 – 2007)
- Advisor to the “Extending the Convivencia: Engaging Fundamental Questions of Meaning and Value in the Global Suburb” project of the Collins County Jr. College, led by Dr. Tony Mansueto.
- Participant in the “Equipping Global Ministry: Wesleyan Studies Project,” Wesley Theological Seminary. (completed 2007)

- Participant in the Hartford School of Theology “Pedagogies for Interfaith Dialogue Project.” Led by Dr David Roozen, (Wabash Foundation Grant) (ongoing)
- Participant/Presenter in the Inter-Religious Dialogue Conference, (April, 2006) sponsored by the Methodist Church in Macedonia and the Macedonian Center for International Cooperation and the *World Conference on Dialogue among Religions and Civilizations* (October, 2007) sponsored by the Ministry of Culture of the government of Macedonia.
- Participant/Presenter in the *Beijing Symposium on Muslim Buddhist Dialogue* of the Religious Studies Department of Beijing University and Ling Jiou Mountain Buddhist Society Museum of World Religions. (October 2007)
- Member of Texas Council of Churches planning committee for Christian-Muslim Dialogue (ongoing)
- Advisor to the General Board of Global Ministry Regional Studies of Islam project (1995 – 2004)
- Coordinator of the European Region “Pastor-Theologian Program” of the Center for Theological Inquiry, Princeton Seminary. (2001 – 2002)
- Testimony on Religious Discrimination in Western Europe for the U.S. House of Representatives Foreign Relations Committee, given June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2000. I also met annually for consultations with both State Department and House of Representatives staff regarding religious freedom in Western Europe (1998 – 2003).
- Advisor on Islam and Inter-religious relations to the Theological Commission of the South-Central Europe Central Conference (1997 – 2004)
- Southeast Asian Coordinator for the Study of Christian Theological Education in Muslim Societies, Center for the Study of Christianity in the Non-western World, Edinburgh University (1997 – 2001) (a Pew Foundation funded project led by Dr. David Kerr)
- With Dr. David Wu and Dr. Hwa Yung I coordinated a series of studies and dialogue sessions for Christians and Muslims in Kuala Lumpur, Singapore, Yogyakarta, and Salatiga. (1995 to 1997)

**Professional Associations:**

- Association of Professors in Mission (Vice President, 2007 - 2008, President 2008 – 2009)
- American Academy of Religion
- Methodist Historical Society (U.S. and World)
- American Society of Missiology
- International Association of Mission Studies
- Malaysian Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society

**Community Service and other:**

I am a past member of the Board of Governors of the American International School of Vienna. Presently a member of the Executive Board of the Fulton School, Rockwall, Texas.

I play French horn and jazz guitar in local bands and orchestras as opportunity allows. I enjoy mountaineering, cycling, and scuba diving as hobbies.

I have been married for 27 years to Lilian, Liong Huan Wong. We have two children, aged 24 and 21.