

# David P. Leong

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## EDUCATION

### Fuller Theological Seminary - Pasadena, CA

Ph.D., Intercultural Studies, 2010

Dissertation, *Street Signs: Toward a Missional Theology of Urban Cultural Engagement*

### Regent College - Vancouver, BC

Master of Arts in Christian Studies, Applied Theology, 2005

Thesis, *Church, Culture, and the Kingdom: A Critique of Dispensational Ecclesiology in Consideration of Missional Church Theology*

### University of Washington - Seattle, WA

B.A., Business Administration: Information Systems, 2001

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### Seattle Pacific University and Seminary - Seattle, WA

Associate Professor of Missiology, School of Theology, 2015-present

Assistant Professor of Missiology, School of Theology, 2011-2015

Assistant Professor of Missional Theology, School of Theology, 2010-2011

Instructor of Missional Theology, School of Theology, 2008-2010

#### Undergraduate Courses

- Global and Urban Ministry Minor: *Intro to Global and Urban Ministry, Holistic Ministry, Living in Another Culture, Interpreting the City, and Cross-Cultural Ministry*
- University Foundations: *Christian Formation, The Christian Faith*
- *Theology, Culture, and Society*
- *Christ and Culture: Theology and Hip Hop*

#### Seattle Pacific Seminary Courses

- *Christian Formation in Mission - Acts of Mercy and Justice*
- *Asian American Ministry: Context, Praxis, and Reconciliation*
- *Theology in Geographical Context: The City*
- *Theological Explorations: Missional Theologians* (Lesslie Newbigin seminar)
- "Burning Issues" electives: *Entrepreneurship and Mission, Social Entrepreneurship and the Church, Theology and Hip Hop*

### Regent College - Vancouver, BC

Summer Course: *Faith, Race, and Place in the City*, 2021

Graduate Teaching Assistant (Interdisciplinary Biblical Studies courses), 2004

## PUBLICATIONS

### Books:

*Race and Place: How Urban Geography Shapes the Journey to Reconciliation*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2017.

*Street Signs: Toward a Missional Theology of Urban Cultural Engagement*. American Society of Missiology Monograph Series. Eugene, OR: Pickwick/Wipf & Stock, 2012.

**Book Chapters:**

(Forthcoming) Leong, David P. "Jerusalem: God's Mission of Longing for the City of God." In *God's Mission in the Cities of the Bible*, edited by Jude Tiersma-Watson, Christina T. Accornero, and Charles E. Van Engen, 164-77. Skyforest, CA: Urban Loft Publishers, 2021.

(Forthcoming) Leong, David P. "Meaning, Memory, and Place." In *Love Your Neighborhood: How Urban Ministry Intersects with Gentrification*, edited by Andrew Singleterry. Pomona, CA: Servant Partners Press, 2021.

**Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles:**

"Black Lives Matter in the Mission of God." *International Journal of Urban Transformation* 2/1 (2017): 34-49.

"Prophet, Pagan, Prayer: Urban Theology of Reversal in the Story of Jonah." *Ex Auditu* 29 (2013): 112-136.

"Reading the City: Cultural Texts and Urban Community." *Missio Dei Journal* 3/2 (2012): 63-74.

"Urban Theological Education at Seattle Pacific University: Encountering Neighbors and Race in Seattle." *Common Ground Journal* 8/1 (2010): 49-58.

"Urban Exegesis in Seattle's Rainier Valley." *Journal of Urban Mission* 1/2 (2010).

**Reviews:**

"Participating in God's Mission: A Theological Missiology for the Church in America." *Journal of Religious Leadership* 18/1 (2019): 121-123.

**Other Writings:**

"The Possibilities of Place." *Fuller Magazine*, Issue 17 (2020), 59-63. Online at <https://fullerstudio.fuller.edu/theology/the-possibilities-of-place/>

"What is the Theological Meaning of the City?" *Faith and Leadership*, September 4, 2018. Online at <http://faithandleadership.com/david-leong-what-theological-meaning-city>

Leong, David P., and Mark Mulder. "Geographic Justice." *Christianity Today* 61.1 (Jan-Feb 2017), 72-73.

"Seattle Housing Needs Some Good News." *Christ and Cascadia*, January 17, 2017. Online at <http://www.journal.christandcascadia.com/2017/01/17/seattle-housing-needs-some-good-news/>

"Do Black Lives Matter in Seattle?" *Christ and Cascadia*, February 8, 2016. Online at <http://christandcascadia.com/do-black-lives-matter-in-seattle/>

“Selections on New Creation: Socioeconomic Reconciliation; Luke 4:14–21, Isaiah 61:1–4.”  
*Lectio: Guided Bible Reading*, The Center for Biblical and Theological Education, Spring 2014.

“Reimagining Race: The New Jim Crow and Race: A Theological Account.” *Perkins Perspective* 3/3 (2011).

“Understanding Cities in Order to Shape Ministry.” *Response Magazine*, Spring 2011.

## **RESEARCH GRANTS AND CONSULTATIONS**

“Urban Ministry Leadership Cohort at Seattle Pacific Seminary,” \$19,787 from City Seminary of New York’s Ministry in the City Hub, December 2020.

“Practices of Ministry in the City,” Working group at City Seminary of New York, Lilly Endowment, March 2015.

“HANA: Hispanic and Asian North American Ministry Consultation,” Carl F.H. Henry Center at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, Chicago, IL, May 2013.

“Contextualizing Biblical and Theological Education for Asian American Students,” \$9,980 from The Center for Biblical and Theological Education at SPU, May 2011.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

### **Academic Meetings/Conferences:**

“Race, Theology, and Mission: Situating the Conversation.” Presenter and panelist at the annual Fuller Missiology Lectures. Fuller Theological Seminary, Pasadena, CA, November 2017.

“Gentrification and Geographies of Division: Missional Praxis in the New Urban Colonialism.” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Society of Missiology, Chicago, IL, June 2017.

“Black Lives Matter in the Mission of God.” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Society of Missiology, Minneapolis, MN, June 2016.

“Missional Migration and Displacement: Reflections on Gentrification in Urban Neighborhoods.” Paper presented at Christ & Cascadia Conference, Fuller NW Institute for Theology and Culture, Seattle, WA, September 2014.

“Color Lines: Reconciling Race and Place in Urban Contexts.” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Society of Missiology, Minneapolis, MN, June 2014.

“Spiritual But Not Religious: Seeking Transcendence in a Secular Age.” Panelist and respondent to James K.A. Smith, Fuller Institute for Theology and Northwest Culture, Seattle, WA, April 2014.

“Prophet, Pagan, Prayer: Urban Theology of Reversal in the Story of Jonah.” Paper presented at North Park Theological Seminary’s Annual Symposium on the Theological Interpretation of Scripture, Chicago, IL, September 2013.

“Subverting the Social Logic of Homogeneity.” Keynote address at Humanity through Community: Bridging the Cultural Divide, The Seattle School of Theology and Psychology, March 2013.

“Street Prophets: Hip Hop, Urban Missiology, and Community Praxis.” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Society of Missiology, Chicago, IL, June 2012.

“Urban Exegesis in Seattle’s Rainier Valley.” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Society of Missiology, Chicago, IL, June 2010.

“Embodied, Prophetic, Subversive: Toward A Missional Theology of Cultural Engagement.” Paper presented at Fuller Theological Seminary’s School of Intercultural Studies Doctoral Seminar, Pasadena, CA, July 2009.

“Immigrants and Hipsters in Transition.” Paper presented at Fuller Theological Seminary’s School of Intercultural Studies Doctoral Seminar, Pasadena, CA, July 2008.

#### **Church/Community-Related Conferences:**

“Crossing Color Lines: From Exclusion to Belonging in Our Divided Urban World.” Meekhof Lecture Series at Newport Presbyterian Church. Bellevue, WA, January 2020.

“Geographies of Exclusion and Belonging.” Keynote speaker at Matthew 25 Conference, national gathering of the Anglican Church of North America. Washington, D.C., February 2019.

“Reimagining Racialized Communities.” Plenary sessions at Streaming Conference, Rochester College, Rochester Hills, MI, October 2018.

“Multi-Ethnic and Missional: Leading Diverse and Vibrant Churches.” Panelist with Dr. Darrell Guder and Dr. Brenda Salter McNeil. Seattle Pacific University, May 2018.

“Blooming in Urban Deserts: Race, Place, and Belonging.” Keynote address at NEXT Church 2018 National Gathering (PC-USA). Baltimore, MD, February 2018.

“Race and Place: Urban Geography and Christian Reconciliation.” Presentation at “God in the Neighborhood” Conference. Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, June 2017.

“Racial Spaces in Changing Places: Resisting Gentrification through Hospitality.” Workshop at the Inhabit Conference. The Seattle School of Theology and Psychology, April 2017.

“Race and Place: From Patterns of Exclusion to Communities of Belonging.” Spotlight talk at the Inhabit Conference. The Seattle School of Theology and Psychology, April 2016.

“Engaging the Built Environment.” Symposium panelist at the Inhabit Conference. The Seattle School of Theology and Psychology, April 2016.

“Education or Incarceration: Seeking Justice in the Criminal Justice System.” Presentation for SPU’s Day of Common Learning. Seattle, WA, October 2015.

“What Ferguson Means to Us: Housing Segregation in Seattle.” Lecture given at University Presbyterian Church. Seattle, WA, April 2015.

“Who Would Jesus House?” Presentation at Tent City 3 Church Leadership Forum, First Free Methodist Church. Seattle, WA, February 2015.

“Wrestling with Reconciliation: Race and Class.” Lectures given at Seattle First Presbyterian Church and University Presbyterian Church. Seattle, WA, November-December 2014.

“Confessions of a Gentrifier: the Complex Legacy of Urban Renewal.” Workshop at the Inhabit Conference. The Seattle School of Theology and Psychology, April 2013.

“The Multiethnic Church in Mission.” Course taught for Ministering in a Multi-Cultural World. Seattle, WA, November 2011.

“Merciful Justice: Thinking Globally, Acting Locally.” Workshop at the Center for Biblical and Theological Education’s Embracing the Whole Gospel Conference. Seattle, WA, May 2011.

“Interfaith Dialogue in an Asian Pacific American Context.” Panel facilitated for the Wing Luke Asian Museum’ Sacred Seattle Exhibit. Seattle, WA, February 2011.

“Glocalization: Youth, Mission, and Cultural Context,” Workshop at the Center for Biblical and Theological Education’s Passionate Faith Conference. Seattle, WA, May 2010.

## **UNIVERSITY SERVICE**

Director of Global and Urban Ministry Minor; advisor and internship supervisor, 2008-present  
University Faculty Diversity Committee, 2011-14, 2016-2019 (Committee Chair, ‘12-13, ‘17-19)  
Advisory Council for Diversity and Reconciliation, 2018-19.

School of Theology Graduate Curriculum Committee, 2009-19 (Committee Chair, 2013-14)

School of Theology Department of Ministry and Practical Theology (Chair, 2015-16)

Asian American Ministry Program faculty advisor, 2009-17 (Committee Chair, 2016-17)

Tent City 3 Steering Committee, 2012-13, 2014-15

Faculty Housing Task Force, 2012-14

CSFD Faculty Mini-Course: “Multicultural Teaching,” 2012, 2013.

Day of Common Learning Workshop Presenter, 2010, 2013, 2015.

ASSP’s “Intercultural Competency in the Classroom” faculty participant, 2011

CBTE’s “Embracing the Whole Gospel” Steering Committee, 2010

## **CHURCH EXPERIENCE AND LEADERSHIP**

**Rainier Avenue Church** (Free Methodist Church) - Seattle, WA

Board of Administration, 2017-2019

Active member and volunteer ministry leader (preaching, worship, CCDA), 2010-present

**Quest Church** (Evangelical Covenant Church) - Seattle, WA

Ministry Director of Community Groups, 2006-2008

Director of College Ministry, 2005-2006

**Chinese Baptist Church** (American Baptist Church) - Seattle, WA

Director (interim) of Youth and Young Adult ministries, 2002-2003

Youth Ministry Intern, 1999-2001

**COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT AND BOARD SERVICE**

**Redlining Project** - Seattle, WA

Community Advisory Committee, 2019-20

Collaborated with the Wing Luke Asian Museum, Northwest African American Museum, and National Park Service to develop museum exhibits, educational walking trails, and community programming about the ongoing legacy of housing discrimination and its effects on the urban landscape of Seattle.

**Urban Impact** - Seattle, WA

Board of Directors, 2012 – 2016 (Vice Chair 2015-2016)

Provided leadership and governance for Christian Community Development and strategic community transformation to break the cycles of social, material and spiritual poverty in urban neighborhoods.

**Wing Luke Asian Museum New Dialogues Initiative: Faith & Spirituality** - Seattle, WA

Community Advisory Committee, 2009 - 2011

Collaborated with Wing Luke Asian Museum and leaders in the Asian/Pacific Islander-American community to develop an exhibit program around interfaith dialogue and issues of faith and spirituality in a local APIA context.

**Rainier Vista Multicultural Committee** - Seattle, WA

Core Subcommittee Member, 2006 - 2013

Community organizing to develop social investment and cooperation between diverse constituencies of homeowners, tenants, immigrants, and resettled refugees in a mixed-used, mixed-income neighborhood redevelopment of the Seattle Housing Authority.

**South Seattle Community Group** - Seattle, WA

Facilitator/Group Leader, 2005 - 2009

Provided leadership for developing and implementing a local neighborhood ministry of presence through an intentional, holistic Christian community group in the Rainier Valley.

**PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

American Society of Missiology

American Academy of Religion

**RESEARCH INTERESTS**

Urban missiology and cultural geography, racialization and urbanization, missional ecclesiologies, theology of the built environment, Asian American Christianity, globalization and mission, theology and hip hop, urban anthropology, new urbanism and gentrification